Rant

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MASANORI MORITA

I've noticed something recently, because I spend so much time just listening to the TV. Newscasters and program hosts misread their lines an awful lot! I can't tell if this is a recent development, or just something that I never noticed until now (probably the latter), but the fact that I get so worked up about it and yell at the TV is probably saying something about my increasing age.

JUMP COMICS
13
人事を尽くして
天命を待つ
森田まさのり
ROOKIES
ルーキーズ

13

All Options Exhausted,
Awaiting God's Will

森田まさのり

STUDIO Nit man SINCE 1989

ROOKIES

ルーキーズ

JUMP COMICS

Cast of Characters

HIYAMA
桧山

WAKANA
若菜

KAWATŌ KŌICHI
川藤幸一

SHINJYŌ
新庄

YUFUNE
湯舟

HIRATSUKA
平塚

IMAOKA
今岡

MIKOSHIBA
御子柴

ROOKIES ルーキーズ

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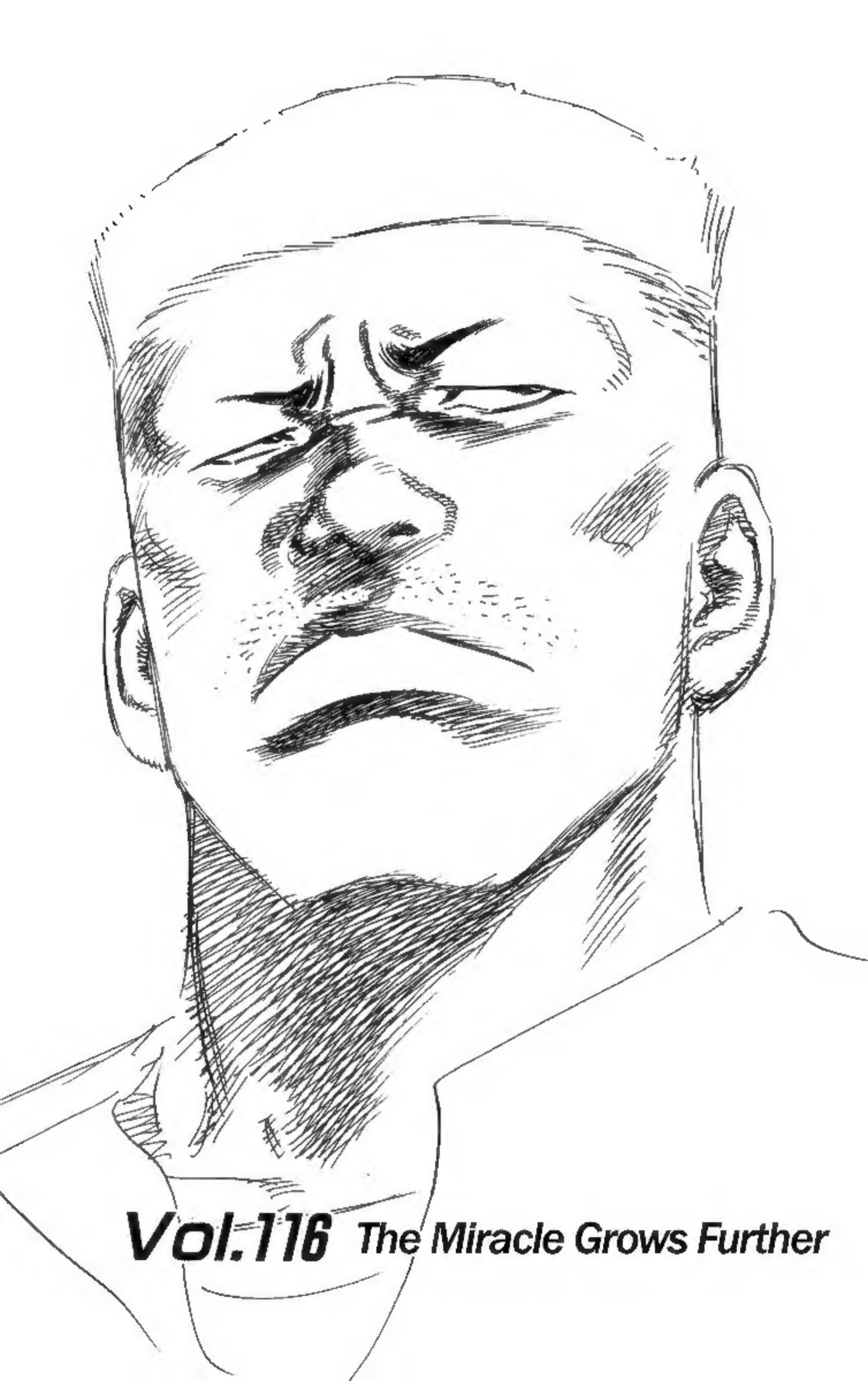
All Options Exhausted, Awaiting God's Will

LEGENDARY 5th ROOKIES SINCE · 2008 GROUP

STUDIO Kitaman SINCE · 1980



Vol.116 The Miracle Grows Further

...ON US...

THEY'VE TURNED THE TABLES...

HA HA HA ...

HEH HEH...

THEY TOOK THE LEAD...

.....

.....

.....

.....

チーム名	一	二	三	四	五	六	七	八	九	十	十
FUTAKO-TAMAGAWA	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0			
MEGURO-GAWA	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2			

AFTER ALL THIS TIME...

.....

ACTUALLY, I'D SAY THE MIRACLE WAS THAT WE MANAGED TO BE AHEAD SO LATE IN THE GAME...

MEGURO-GAWA'S REGAINED THEIR FOOTING ...

F

FINALLY, THEY'VE OVER-TURNED THE SCORE...

WE WOULDN'T BE IN THIS SITUATION IF I KNEW WHAT IT WAS!

WHAT'S THE GIVEAWAY?

.....

I KNOW I'VE GOT ONE.

.....

W-WHAT ARE YOU DOING, ANIYA?!

THIS IS NO TIME TO BE FIGHTING WITH YOUR TEAM-MATES!

YOU'RE THE CATCHER, DAMMIT!

YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO KEEP AN EYE ON THE PITCHER'S HABITS!

!

W-WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU GUYS?! IT'S JUST A ONE-RUN LEAD!

THE GAME'S NOT OVER YET!

WE CAN TURN THINGS AROUND! EVERY-THING'S FINE!

.....

WHAT IF THERE'S JUST NO SOUL IN YOUR PITCHING?

WHAT DID YOU SAY?!

HIYAMA!

THIS IS MEGURO-GAWA.

WE CAN'T BEAT THEM

I FIGURED WE WEREN'T GONNA WIN.

Y-YOU WANNA REPEAT THAT...?

DON'T YOU DARE SAY THAT!

NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES I THOUGHT IT, I NEVER SPOKE IT ALOUD!!

I TRIED SO HARD TO MAKE SURE I DIDN'T...

.....

BECAUSE IT'S THE TRUTH. THAT'S THE REALITY OF IT

.....

.....

WHY WOULD YOU SAY SOMETHING LIKE THAT?!

OWW!

WHAT THE FUCK WAS THAT FOR?!

OH YEAH?! WELL, WHY DIDN'T YOU CATCH THAT HIT THROUGH THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE INFIELD?!

YOU'RE THE PITCHER, MAN! WHY DON'T YOU THROW SOME FORKBALLS OR SOME SCURBALLS OR SOMETHING?!

S-SENSE., SHOULDN'T WE STOP THEM?

NO, JUST WAIT

WHAT?!

AND WHAT THE HELL IS A "SCURBALL," ANYWAY? I'D LIKE TO SEE YOU THROW THAT!

NOT AGAIN!

AAAGH !!

.....

OWW! OW!

SERIOUSLY, I AIN'T GONNA REST UNTIL YOU'RE DEAD!

THAT HURTS!

STOP IT, YOU GUYS! COME ON!

THIS WAS SUPPOSED TO BE A MEMORIAL!

THIS IS JUST LIKE...

HIRA-TSUKA-KUN!

HELL YEAH! LEMME GET SOME OF THAT!

IT'S JUST A ONE-RUN LEAD!

WHY WHY IS THIS HAPPEN-ING?!

IT'S JUST LIKE HOW THEY USED TO BE!

AND AS SOON AS SOMEONE LET THOSE WORDS OUT, ALL THAT TENSION AND DREAD HAS FLOODED FORTH.

BUT THEY KEPT THOSE WORDS SWALLOWED DEEP IN THE PIT OF THEIR STOMACHS.

THIS IS MEGUROGAWA WE'RE FACING. THEY ALL HAD INKLINGS OF A LIKELY LOSS.

THAT'S REALITY.

.....

WHAT? NO FIGHT?

C'MON!

THROW A PUNCH!

IT'S THE FACT OF OUR TEAM.

THIS IS JUST HOW IT IS.

SENSEI!

WAIT A SEC.

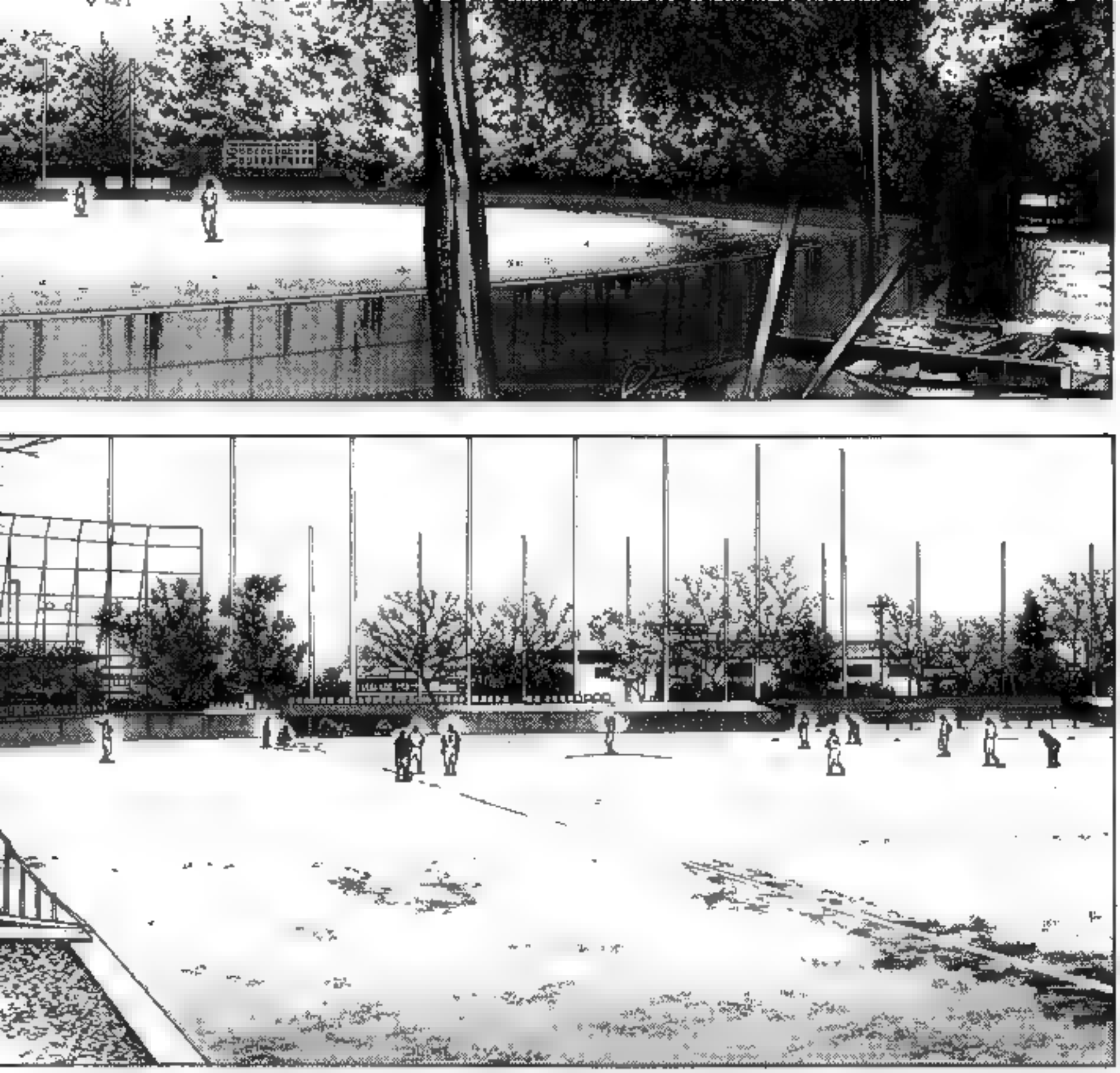
WHAT'S UP WITH THEM?

pfft

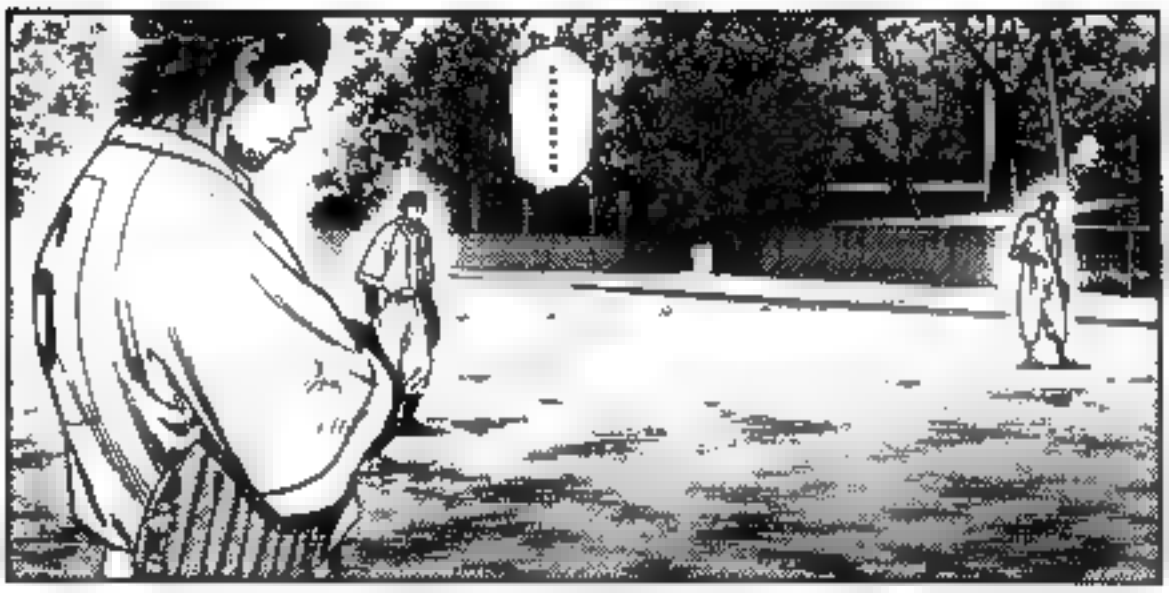
OH MY GOD !!

IMAOKA!

PITCHING CHANGE!



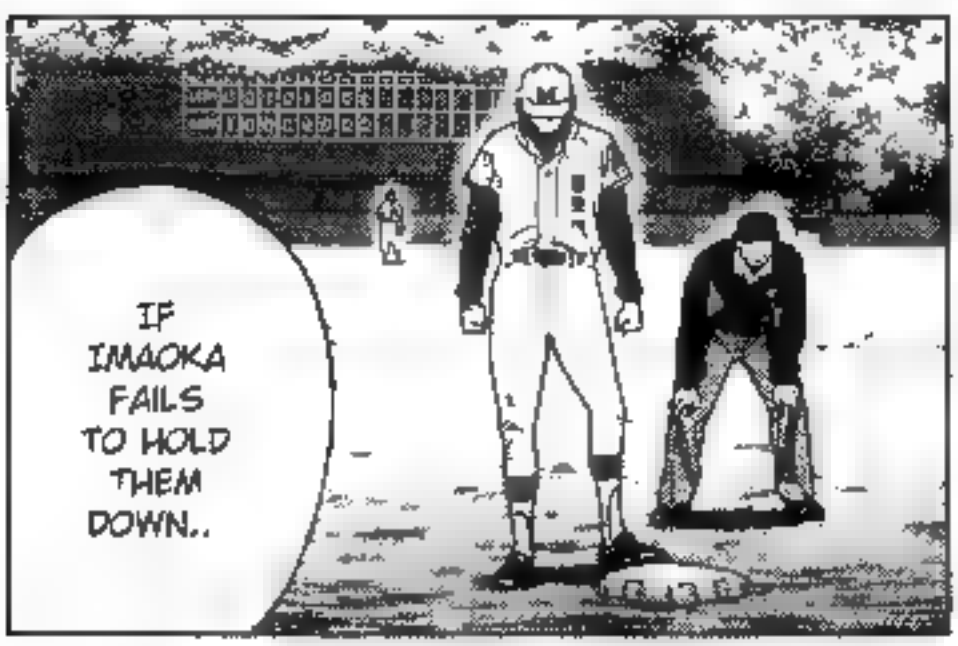
UNDER-
HAND!
WHOA!
!!
.....

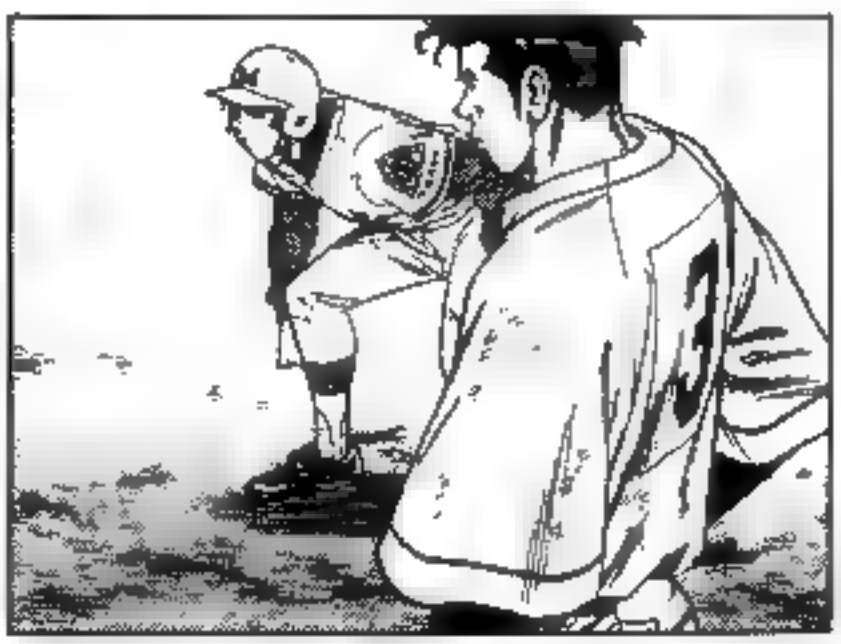


HMPH.

LET'S HOLD 'EM DOWN, HERE! WE CAN DO IT...
C'MON GUYS, SHOW SOME LIFE!

PLAY BALL!
WE CAN HOLD .

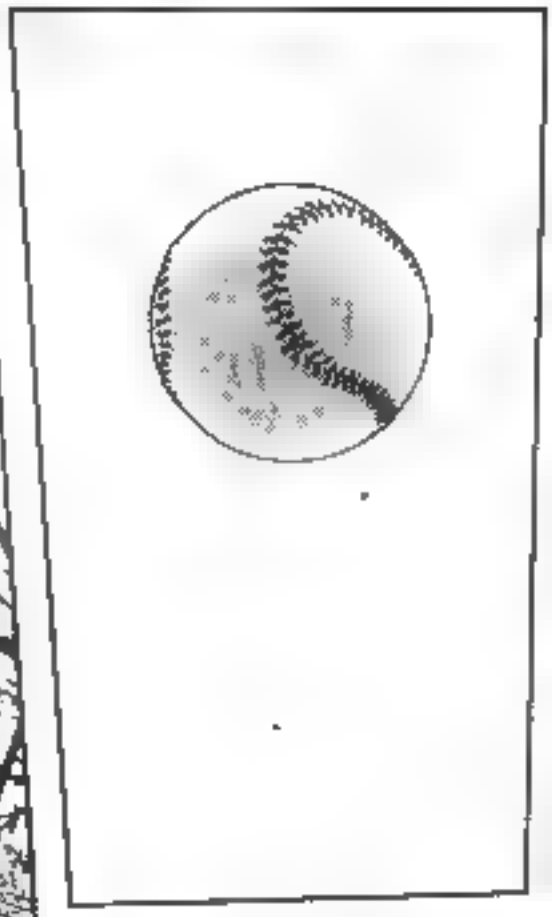

IF IMAOKA FAILS TO HOLD THEM DOWN..



I'M JUST TAKING THE BEST MEASURES I CAN TO WIN THIS GAME.
THE TIMING ON ANIYA'S PITCHING WAS CLEARLY BEING GIVEN AWAY

SAVE THE NEGATIVE COMMENTS, PLEASE
HUH? I WAS JUST

.....
I'LL DO ANYTHING TO WIN!



HMMF!

MMM...

OHHH!

M
CRAP!

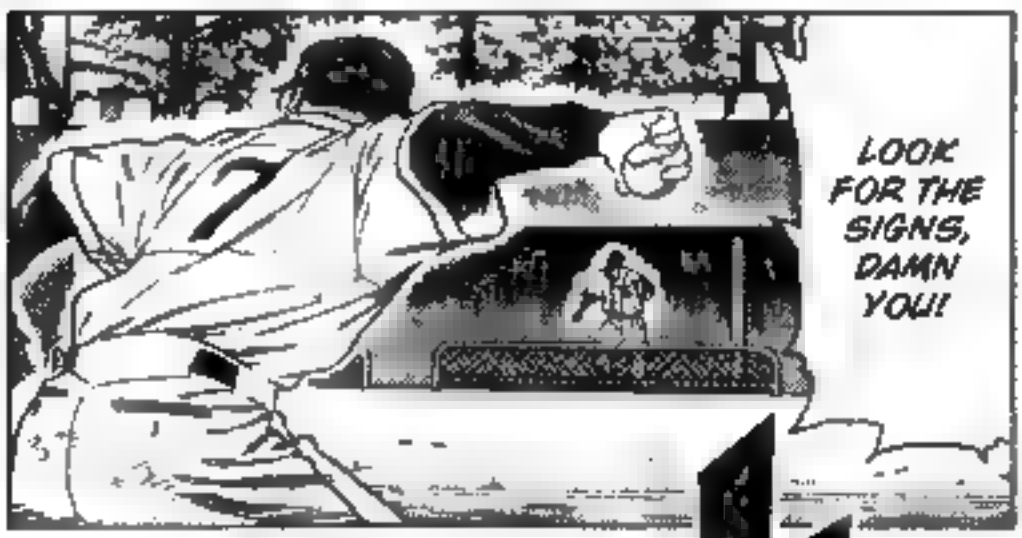
GOT HIM!

OUUUUT!

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING, KONO?!
A GROUND-ER... RIGHT TO THIRD!
ENATSU, ARE YOU EVEN TRYING TO RUN THE BASES?!

I'MONNA GET ME A STRIKE-OUT
HEH HEH...

HE WAS WAY OFF ON THAT SWING.
I-I DIDN'T KNOW THEY HAD A GUY LIKE THAT..


LOOK FOR THE SIGNS, DAMN YOU!

IMA-OKA!

HA HA...
HA HA HA...
AND I GOT IT!

STRIKE THREE! BATTER OUT!

I-I DON'T BELIEVE IT!

TWO OUTS, NOW! JUST ONE MORE!

YES, IMAOKA, YES! INCRED-IBLE!

Y-YOU REALLY THINK ...?

.....

LET'S SEE, THERE'S A 2 IN THE BOTTOM OF THE EIGHTH, SO A THREE-RUN HOMER WILL MAKE IT

I'D GET THE SCOREBOARD NUMBERS READY IF I WERE YOU.

THEY'RE JUST TOO USED TO SEEING ANIYA'S FASTBALL PITCHING, THAT'S ALL.

HEH HEH, THAT GUY'S A CHARAC-TER.

52

7

Vol.117 Anger

GYAHA-HAHA! WHAT DOES THAT MAKE YOU TWO?

WHAT?!

PIECE OF CAKE.

THE SUBMARINE DELIVERY THREW ME OFF AT FIRST, BUT IT'S BASICALLY JUST SLOW TOSS.

SHIT MAN, I WANNA GO HOME...

SOMETHING WILL HAPPEN.. WE'RE NOT DONE YET...

N-NO, WE CAN'T GIVE UP. WE SCORED SEVEN RUNS IN ONE INNING LAST GAME...

ONLY ONE MORE INNING FOR US TO HIT...

FOUR-RUN DEFICIT.. BOTTOM OF THE EIGHTH...

BA-BUMP BA-BUMP

COME ON, GUYS, STAND UP!

I-IT'S OKAY, IMAOKA! DON'T WORRY!

JUST RELAX! TAKE IT EASY!

YOU KNOW?

THE GAME'S OVER.

SHUT UP.

WHERE'S HE GETTING ALL THIS POSITIVE ENERGY?

TWO OUTS! TWO OUTS!

THIS IS AS FAR AS THREE MONTHS WILL GET YOU

GAHAHAHA! WE'VE BEEN PLAYING BASEBALL FOR THREE MEASLY MONTHS.

SHUT UP! I DON'T WANT TO HEAR YOUR CRAP RIGHT NOW

WHAT? DON'T TELL ME TO SHUT UP!

!

ptu

PSHH. I'M GETTIN' STARED DOWN!

BY THE GUY WHO STARTED A WHOLE MONTH AFTER ME.

HUH?

COME ON, IMAOKA! DON'T LET THEM SMACK YOU AROUND!

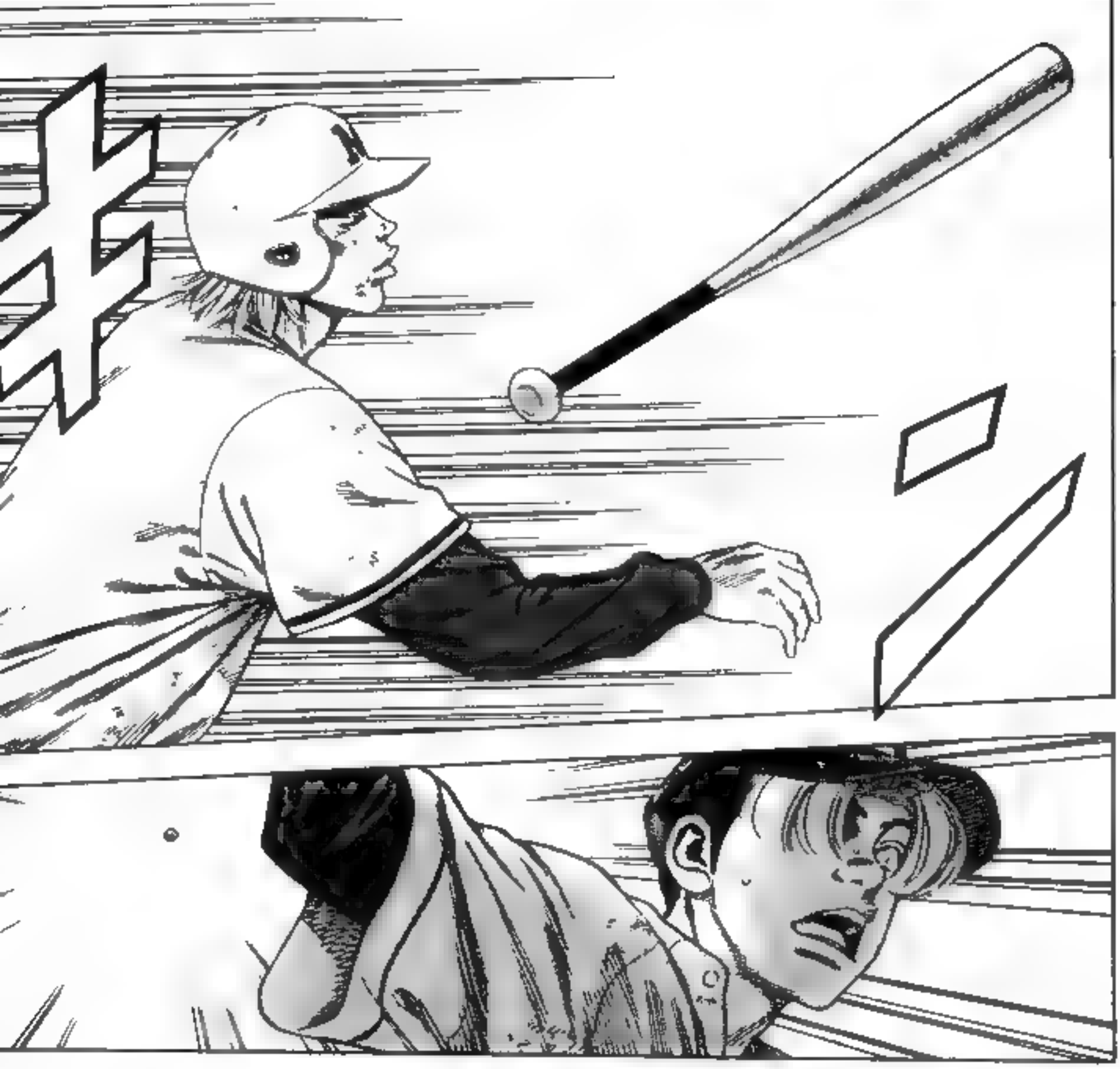
PUT SOME LIFE INTO IT!

GUYS. .

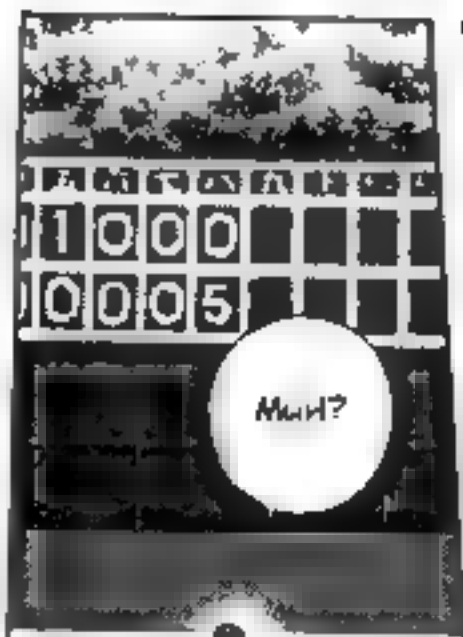
HE'S JUST LOBBING THE BALL IN THERE!

COME ON, AWAGUCHI! KEEP IT GOING!

GYAHA-HAHA!



OH, NOT AGAIN!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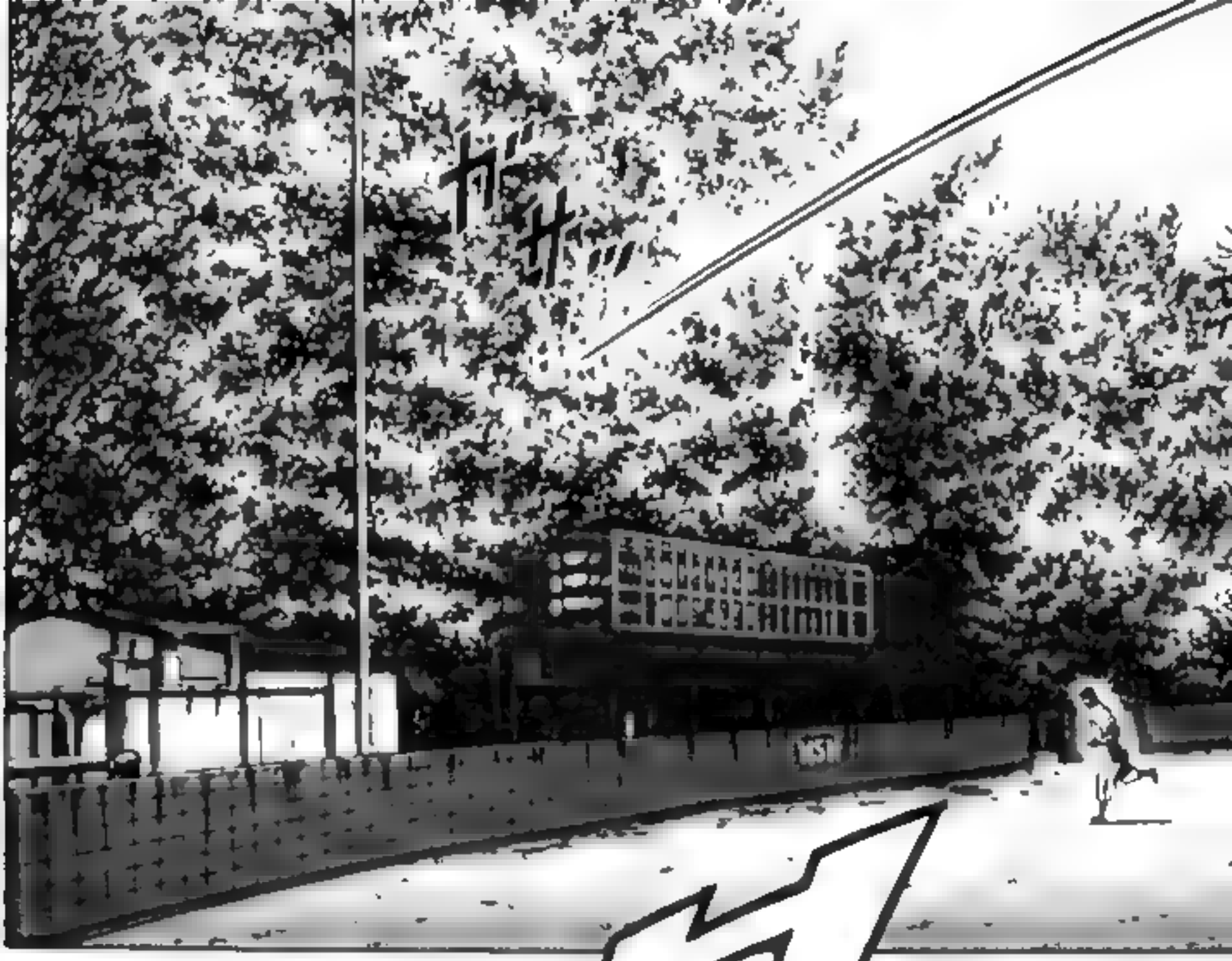
0005
MUH?

G-GET UP, SEKI-KAWA!


M
IT'S GONE!
TSK I WANTED TO GET IT OVER THE TREES.
ANOTHER HOMER!
AAGH...

COME ON GUYS, DON'T JUST STAND THERE LIKE THAT!

WE'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF A GAME!

T-THERE AIN'T NO BREEZE HERE.

T-THAT ONE WAS JUST... UH, THE WIND! A LUCKY SEA BREEZE GOT UNDER IT!

AND WE'RE NOT NEAR THE OCEAN.

DON'T SWEAT IT! NO PROB-LEM!

.....

HEY! WHAT'S WITH ALL THIS GETTING SMACKED AROUND STUFF?!

DAMMIT, IMAOKA! DO YOUR JOB!

YOU MIGHT NOT NEED TO.

HUH?

I GUESS I COULD JUST FLIP A 9 AROUND.

6!

HEY, I DON'T SEE A 6.

DON'T WE HAVE A 6?

YEAH.

WHOA!

YOU SEE THAT, BITCH?!

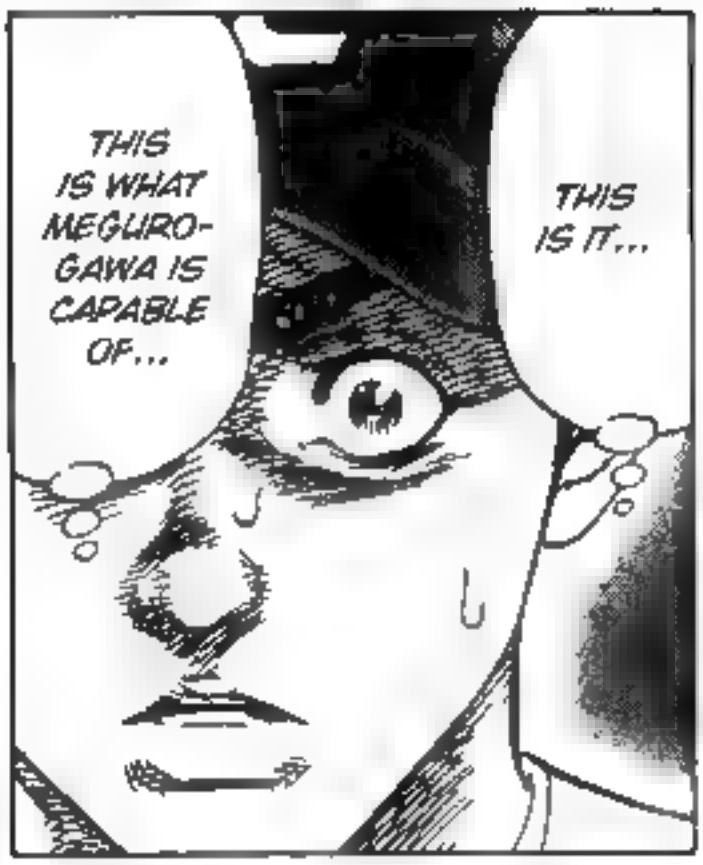
I'M SCREWED

GYAHAHA! BACK-TO-BACK-TO-BACK!

DAMN, RIGHT OFF THE SCORE-BOARD!

COME ON, SEKIKAWA! WHY WEREN'T YOU CHASING THAT?!

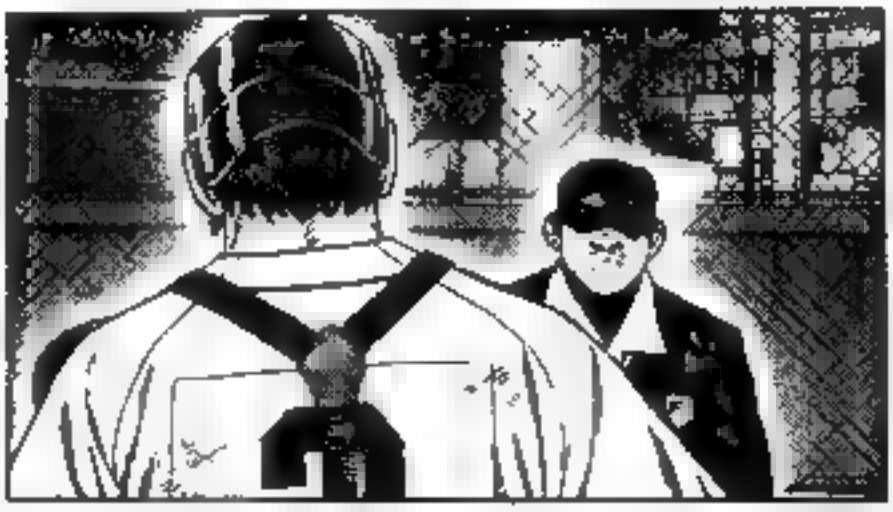
.....


THIS IS WHAT MEGURO-GAWA IS CAPABLE OF...
THIS IS IT...

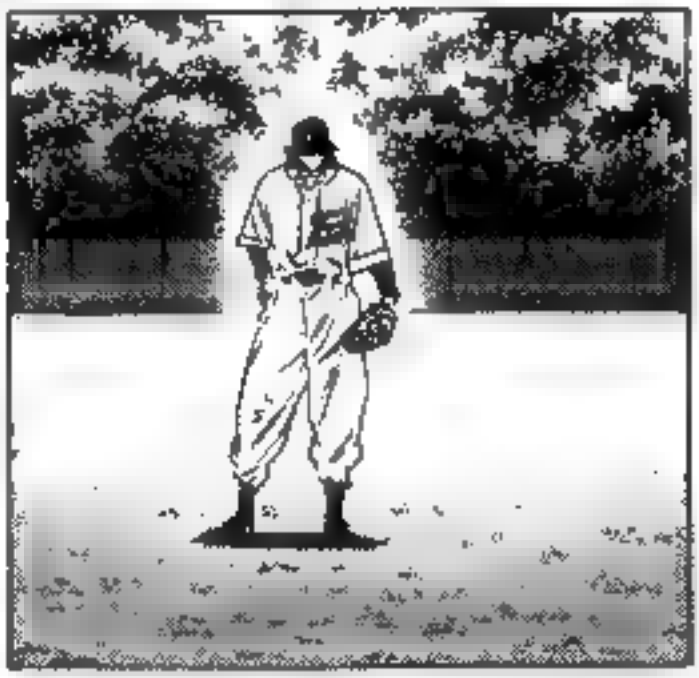
D-DON'T GIVE UP, GUYS ...
DON'T WORRY

I COULDN'T CATCH THAT.
OH, SHUT UP
SEKI-KA-WAAA!

.....



HEH HEH HEH.



.....
RRGH ..

THIS WAS THE BEST WE COULD EXPECT

IT'S NOT REALLY THAT BIG OF A SURPRISE.

HUH?

ANIYA!

PITCHING CHANGE!

.....

"H"

SENSEI.

I WANT TO SEE SOME DISCIPLINE!

COME ON, PEOPLE! BACK INTO SHAPE!

RE-MEMBER WHAT DAY THIS IS!

WHAT DOES THIS DAY REPRESENT TO YOUR TEAM?!

SENSEI.

DON'T YOU DARE GIVE UP!

.....

COME ON! I DON'T HEAR ANY ANSWERS!

IT MIGHT BE TOO LATE...

.....

THAT'S RIGHT, DON'T GIVE UP...

DON'T GIVE UP...

THEY KNOW THAT...

THIS IS THE DAY WHEN WE SEIZE OUR VERY FIRST WIN AS A TEAM...

PLAY AS A TEAM ...

WE HAVE TO UNITE THE MEMBERS OF THE TEAM...

AND STRIVE FOR THAT FIRST WIN...

WE'VE ONLY BEEN AT IT THREE MONTHS, BUT I GUARANTEE WE'VE PRACTICED HARDER THAN THEM IN THAT TIME.

THAT'S WHY WE'LL WIN!

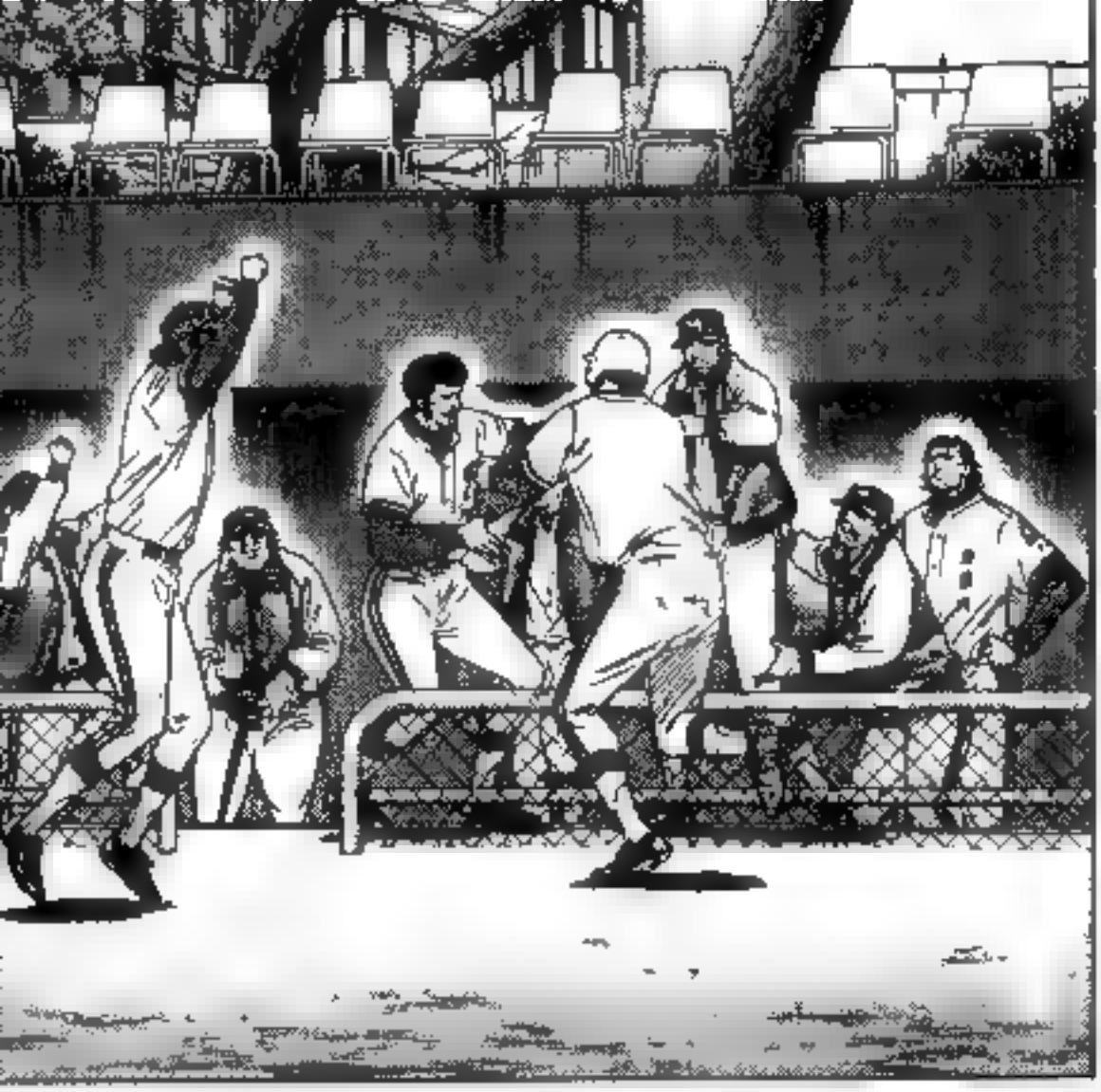
WE KNOW THESE THINGS...

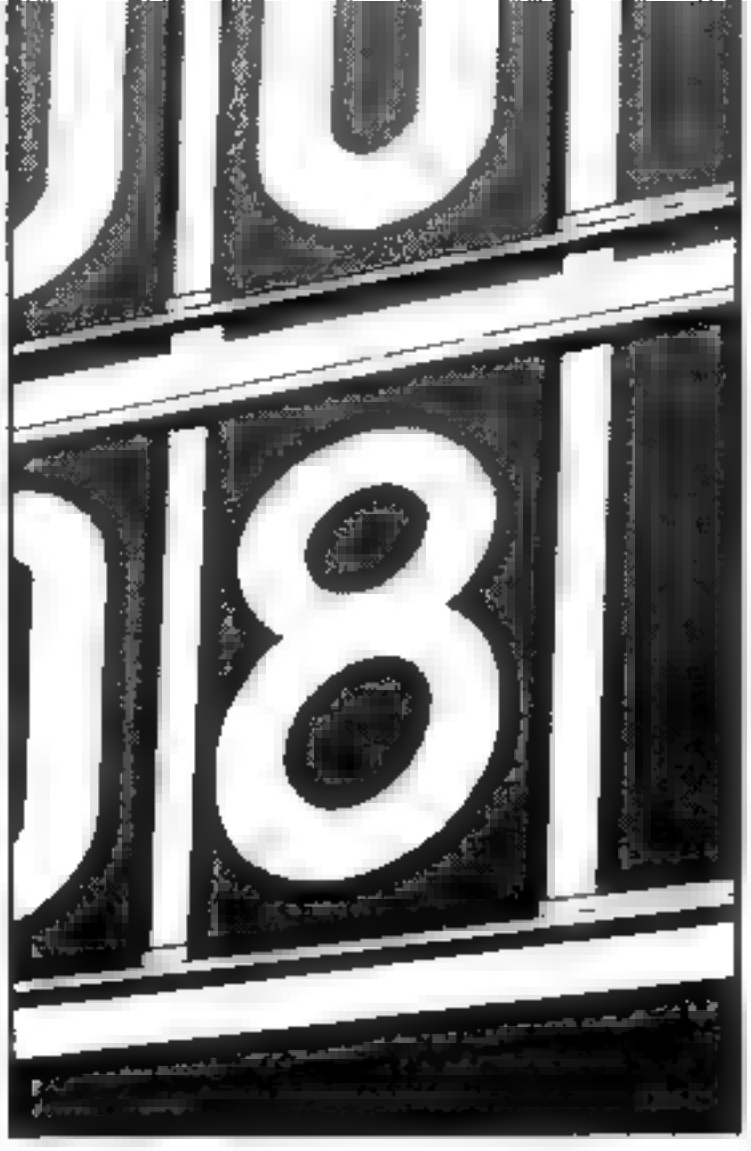
WE KNOW THIS.

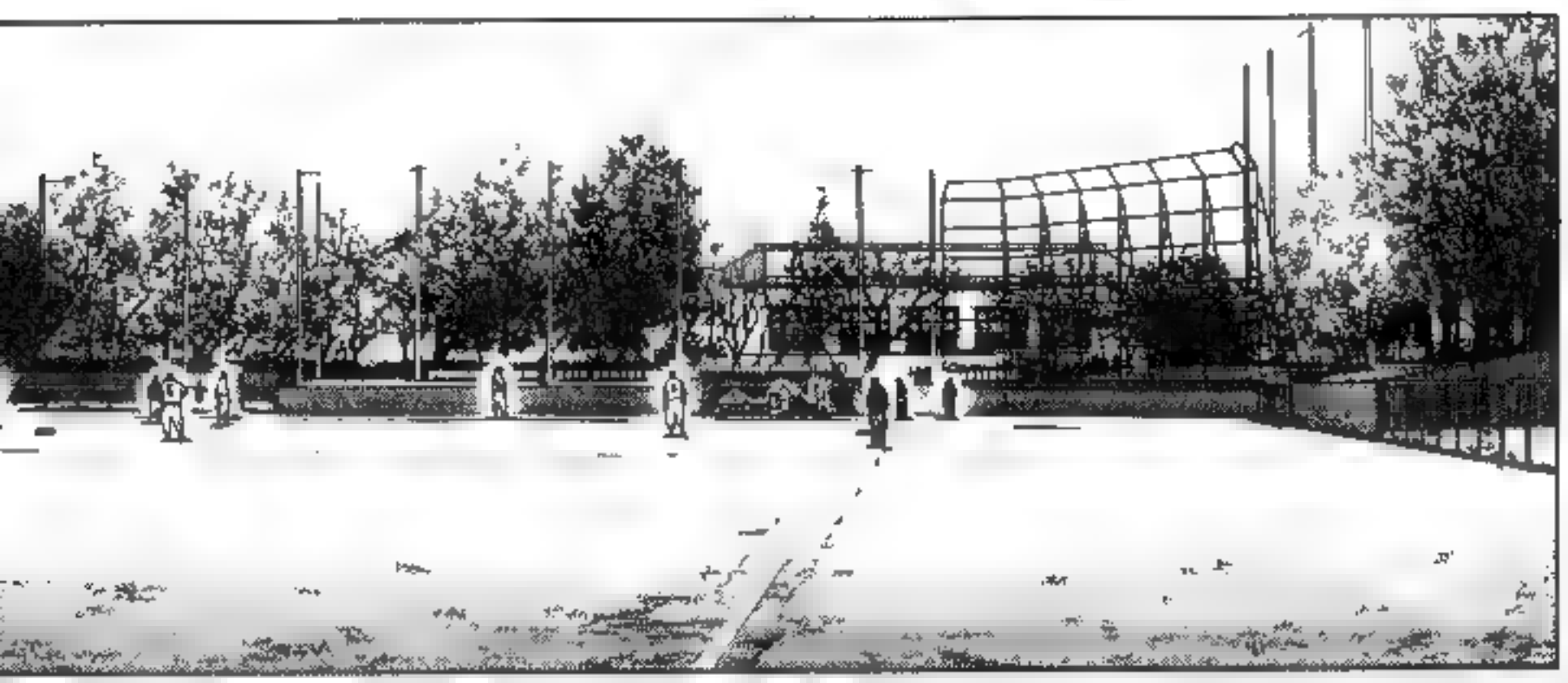
BUT STILL ...

"!"

BUT STILL ...







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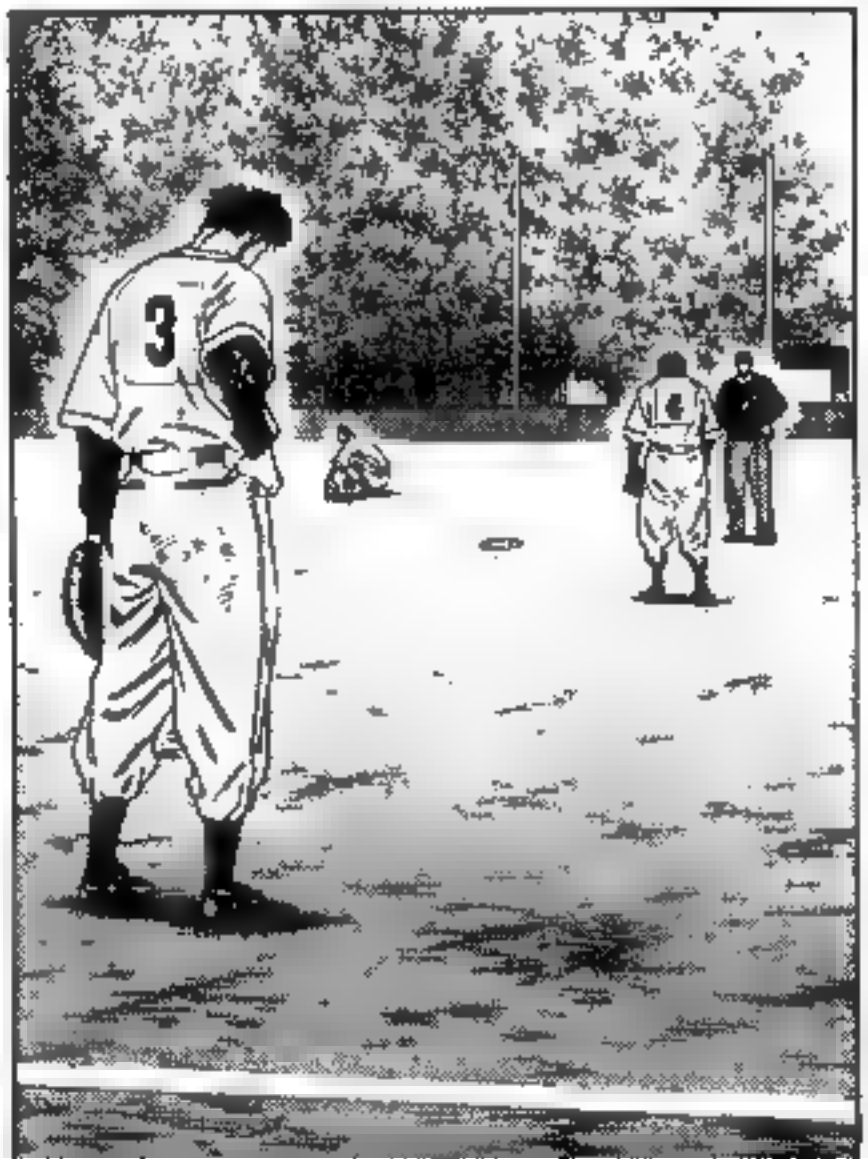
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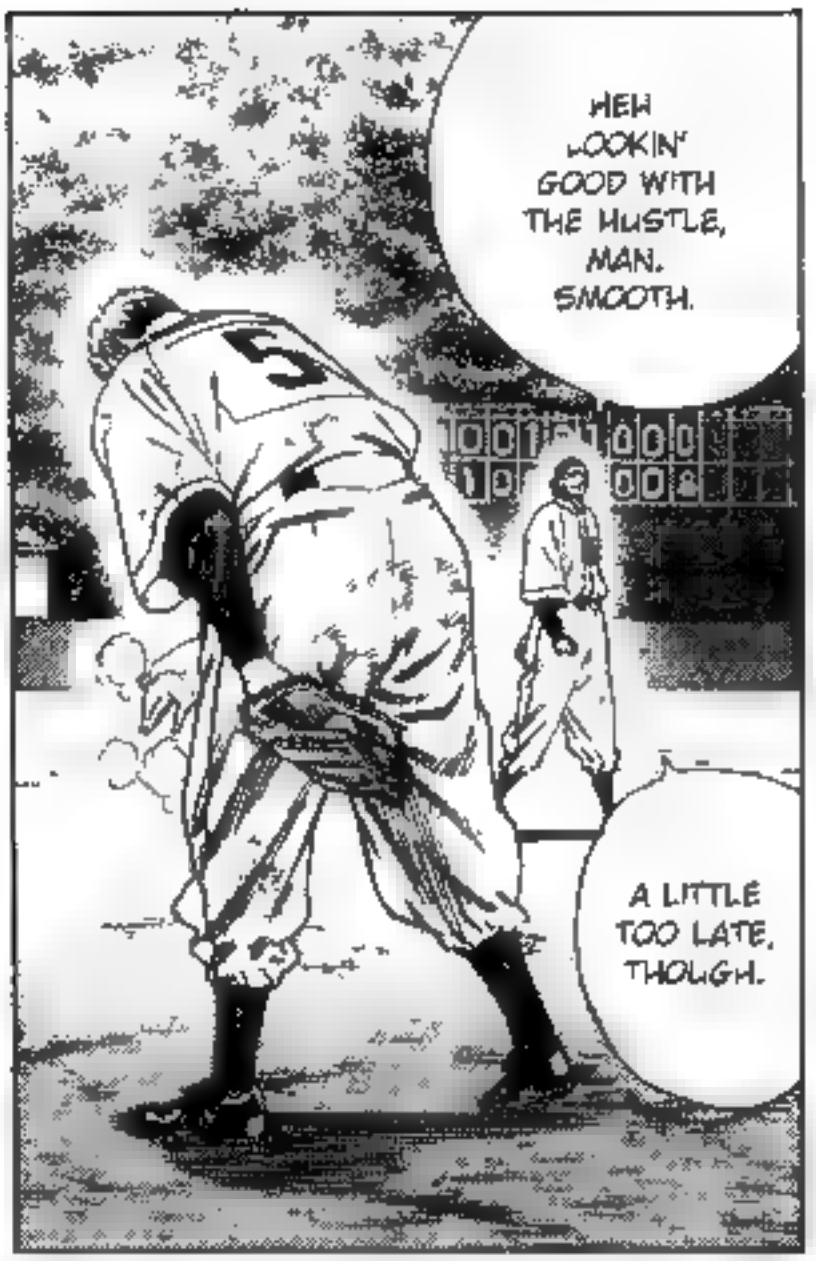
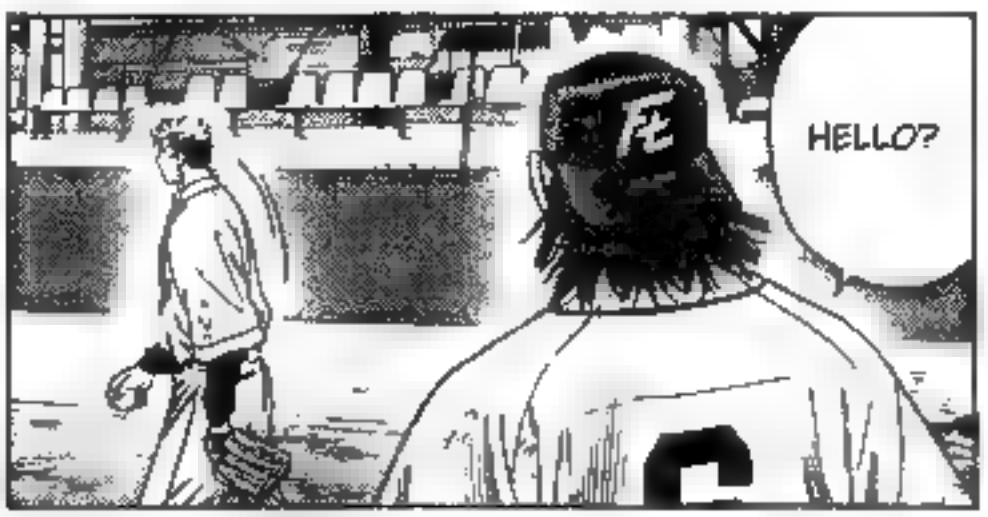
YES!

OUT!

ARE YOU CRAZY?
YOU STILL THINK WE'RE GONNA WIN THIS GAME?


HEH LOOKIN' GOOD WITH THE HUSTLE, MAN. SMOOTH.
A LITTLE TOO LATE, THOUGH.


HELLO?

YOU CAN'T!
HIYA-MAAAAAAA!
KAWATO-KUN!
NO, SENSEI!!

HUH?

WHAT?

WHAT'S YOUR-

ｷｭｯ

ドド"

SHINJO
...

I'M TIRED OF HEARING YOUR BULLSHIT! IF YOU SAY THAT ONE MORE TIME, I'M GONNA KILL YOU!!

DAMN...

GRR...

SHIN-JO!

WHA...

Vol.118 Persistence

WHAT THE FUCK, MAN?!

9

SHINJO-KUN!

.....

HUH?

DWAAH!

H-HEY, WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU, MAN. ?

DON'T GET NEAR ME, UNLESS YOU WANT A MOUTHFUL OF KNUCKLES!!

THE WHOLE LOT OF YOU ARE REALLY PISSING ME OFF RIGHT NOW!

COME ON, PEOPLE! WHY ARE YOU ALL SO MAD?!

I'LL KILL YOU!

THIS IS BULLSHIT, MAN!

STOP IT! KNOCK IT OFF, RIGHT NOW!

N- NO! STOP IT!

WHAT THE HELL IS YOUR PROB-LEM?!

SHUT UP!

DON'T START ACTING LIKE THE COCK OF THE WALK, THE INSTANT YOU MAKE A NICE CATCH!

NINTH INNING IS UP NEXT.

BACK ON THE BENCH.

WHAT ?!

THAT'S ENOUGH FIGHTING.

ptu

KEH

.....

.....

SHINJO

I AIN'T...

I KNOW THAT.

DON'T CONCEN-TRATE ON THE SCORE JUST TRY TO START ONE RUN AT A TIME

5

IT'S A HALFWAY POINT. NOTHING'S OVER YET, FOR US.

THIS IS JUST...

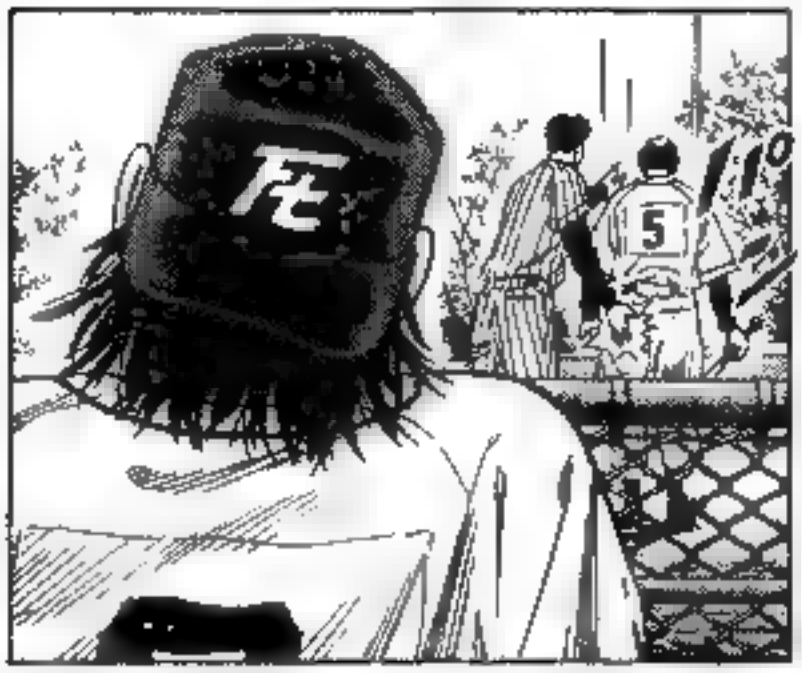
SHINJO ...

...I AIN'T GONNA GIVE UP NOW

SHINJO-
KUN ..
2

BACK TO THE DAYS WHEN WE WERE JUST STUPID PIECES OF SHIT
IF WE GIVE UP RIGHT HERE, EVERY-THING GOES BACK TO THE WAY IT WAS BEFORE.

NIKOGAKU'S BETTER THAN THIS!
I'M NOT GONNA LET THIS THING END HERE!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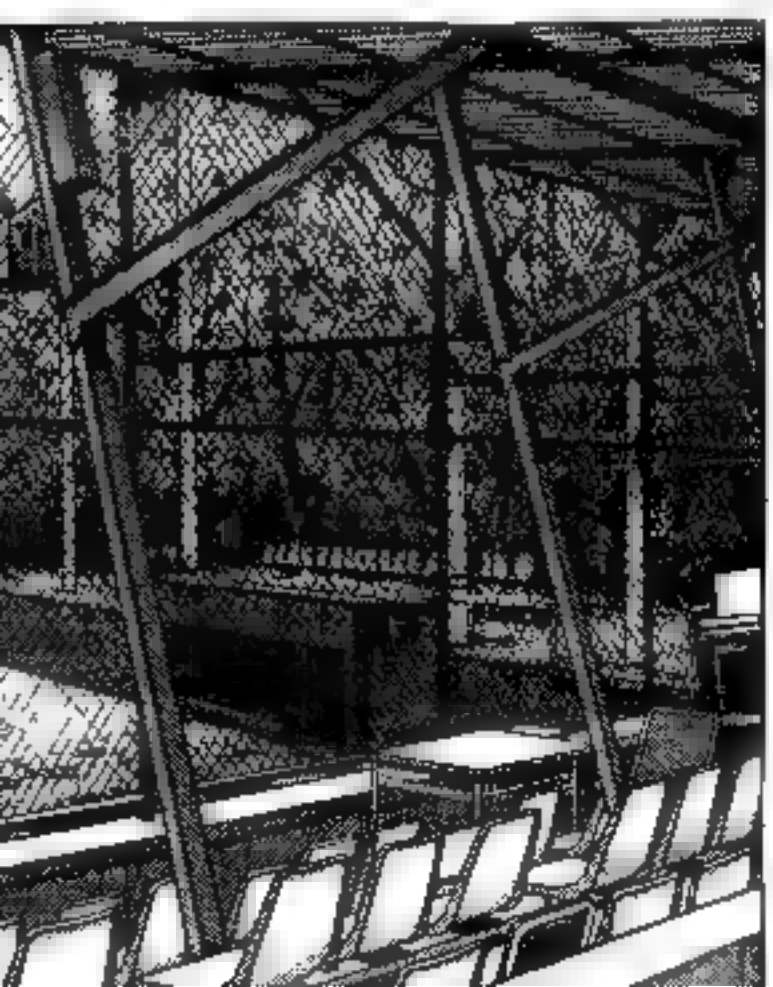


ptu

.....

STRIIIIKE!

!

ptu

COME ON, I WANNA GO HOME ALREADY!

HEY, I GUESS YOU CAN PITCH, AFTER ALL!

HUH.. ?

GAHAHA! IDIOT.

GREAT HE'S ALREADY IN A HOLE AT THE PLATE

OKAY, I TAKE THAT BACK, FORGET YOU!

HEY, WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT?!

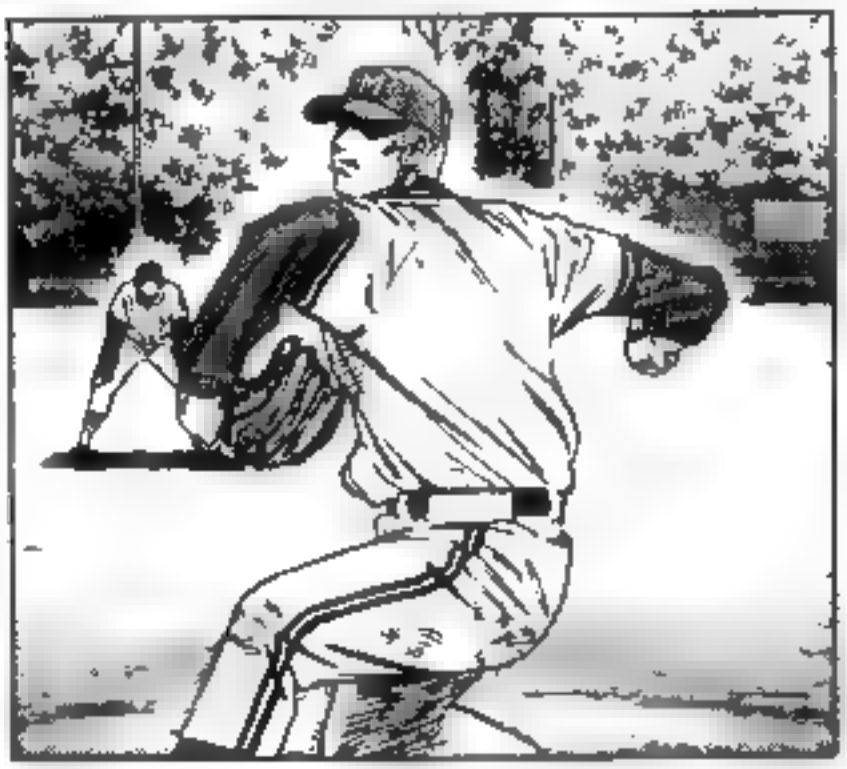
DON'T YOU SPIT AT ME, BITCH!

GOTTA MAKE SURE WE GET THIS GUY OUT.
HE'S STILL GOT A TERRIFYING SWING...

WHEWW-WWW.

SHINJO
...

COME ONNNNN!



ENATSU!
FUCKIN' ASS-HOLE...
GOD-DAMN!
HOLY CRAP, HE HIT THE PITCHER!

HEY! WHO YOU THROWIN' IT TO?!

SHIT!

TOKYO

THAT'S IT! RUN, RUN, RUN!

!?

THIRD BASE, SHIBA-TAAAA!

GODDAMN MORON.

WHAAAAAT ?!

.....!

.....

NUAAH!

SAAAAFE!

YESSS SSS!

THATTA WAY!

GOOD HUSTLE, SHINJO! ATTABOY!

...W-WOW...

HE SERIOUSLY THINKS HE CAN WIN THIS GAME.

.....

D... DUDE IS CRAZY ...

AAAH!

NOW KEEP IT GOING!

HUH ..?

WHAT ARE YOU DOING, HIYAMA?! YOU'RE UP NEXT!

.....

ptu

YES, BUT I WOULDN'T COUNT ON IT ..

EVEN AN OUTFIELD FLY BALL WILL SCORE US A RUN.

PLAY BALL!

AND IN THE LAST GAME, FOUL POP-UP TO THIRD, STRIKEOUT, INFIELD HIT, STRIKEOUT...

HIYAMA-KUN'S LINE TODAY IS STRIKEOUT, POP-UP TO CATCHER, STRIKEOUT.

.....

HIYAMA-KUN'S THE WORST ON THE TEAM.

WHEN IT COMES TO MAKING GOOD CONTACT WITH THE BALL.

WHAT'S THE POINT OF SCRATCHING AND CLAWING JUST TO GET ONE RUN?

DO YOU GUYS EVEN KNOW WHAT THE SCORE IS?

STRIIIKE!

WELL, THAT'S WHAT HIYAMA'S THINKING!

DON'T BE LIKE THAT!

I I"

=

"

STRIIIIKE!

.....

90m

I KNOW.

GRRR...

WE CAN'T LET THIS GAME END THE WAY IT IS NOW...

I KNOW, SHINJO...

I KNOW NIKOGAKU'S BETTER THAN THIS...

RUN, SHINJO !!

!

!

NNG!

A TWO-STRIKE BUNT SQUEEZE ?!

YES!

League.

SBCM MADE IN U.S.A.

HIT

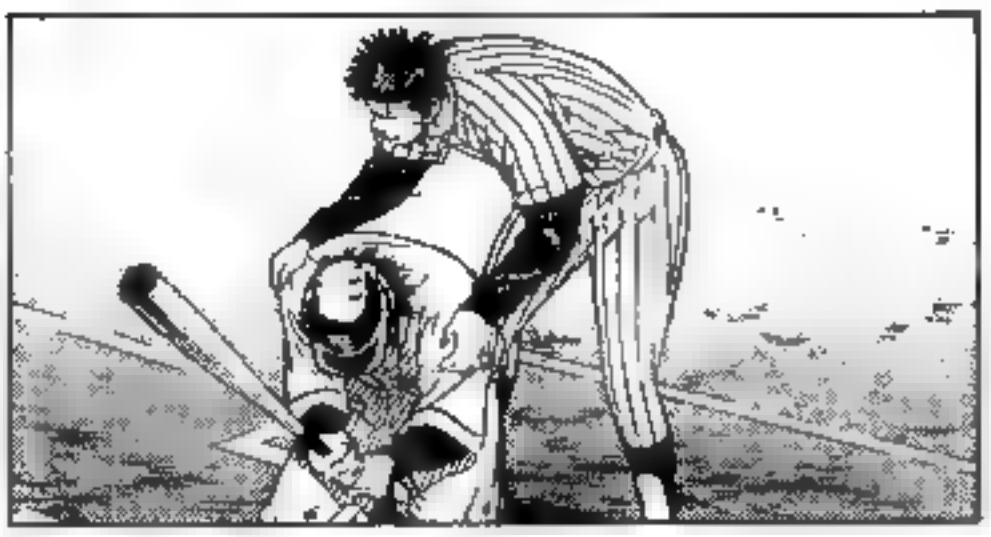
AAAAH! IT WENT FOR!

OUUUUUT!

.....

!
4

BUT YOU DID GOOD.
THAT WAS A TOUGH ONE



NIKOGAKU IS NEVER GOING TO STOP IMPROVING.
AS LONG AS WE HAVE GUYS LIKE YOU ON THE TEAM.

.....

HIYAMA-KUN...

.....

.....

3

.....

DON'T STARE AT ME!

Vol.119 Begging the Cat

LOOK AT YOU ALL, GETTING DESPERATE

PSH! THIS IS CRAZY.

.....

.....

N-NO! STOP IT, HIYAMA!

WHAT'D YOU DO THAT FOR?!

ガバッ

YEOW!

DUD

STOP FIGHTING! YOU AND SHINJO BOTH TRIED YOUR HARDEST TO KEEP THINGS GOING...

SHUT UP! I DON'T CARE!

ptw

OKADA.

HMPH.

SENSEI ...

!

THERE'S ONLY ONE OUT PLAY IT COOL, PLAY IT SMART.

HIT IT THROUGH THE GAP LIKE YOU DID LAST..

.....

9

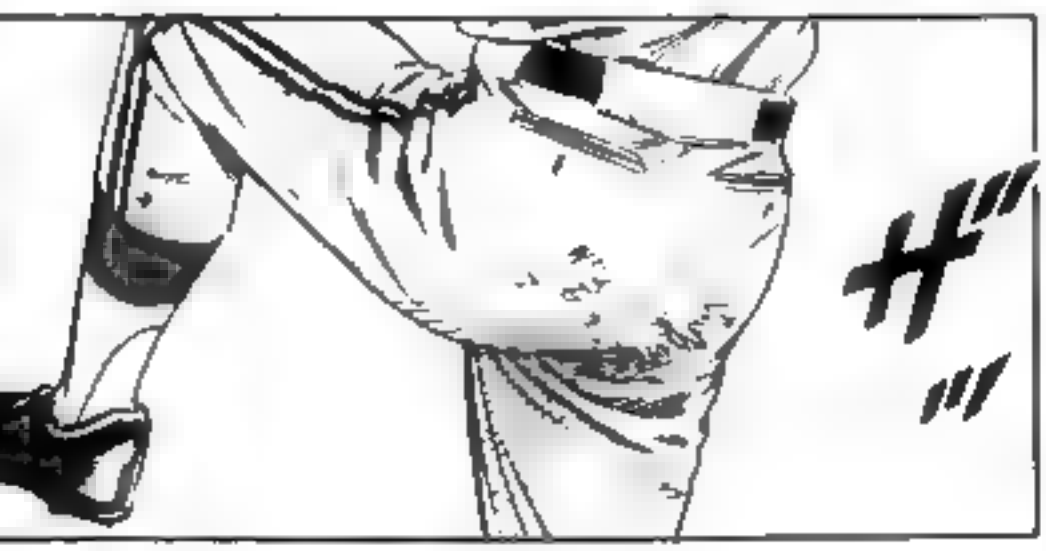
OKADA!

DON'T FUCK WITH ME.

HEH YEAH, I GUESS THERE'S NO USE BEING TENSE WHEN YOU'RE THIS FAR BEHIND HUH, OKADA?

HUH?
YOU SAY SOMETHING?

PLAY BALL!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ORAAA!

.....!

STRIIIKE!

OKADA ...

SHIT

OOH. HE STILL HAS EXCELLENT VELOCITY

SHUT UP, DAMMIT.

4" up

JUST FINISH THE DAMN GAME UP!

HEY! QUIT ACTIN' COOL, WIPIN' YOUR SWEAT AND ALL!

.....

ACK.

!!

WHA...

N-NO, WAKANA! HE JUST LOST HIS GRIP! IT WASN'T ON PURPOSE!

W-WHAT THE FUCK WAS THAT, ENATSU ?!

H-HEY, YOU ALL RIGHT ...?

D-DEAD BALL. BATTER TAKES FIRST.

W-WHOA, MAN... THAT DIDN'T LOOK GOOD AT ALL

...AA...?

OKAA AAAAA AA... AAA...

O...

OF COURSE I'M NOT ALL RIGHT.

OKADA ...

..OW.

H-HEY. ARE YOU ALL RIGHT.?

.....

IT'S A 7-RUN GAME.

HEH... WE CAN DO THIS, EASY...

YOU COULD HAVE DODGED THAT.

SHUT UP...

GOD, YOU'RE SUCH A KLUTZ.

HEY...

KEH.. I GUESS THE GUY REALLY DOESN'T WANT PEOPLE GETTING HITS OFF HIM.

DID YOU DO THAT.. ON PUR-POSE?

WAIT...

.....

HE DID IT TO HELP THE TEAM WIN.

THE INDEFATIGABLE DESIRE TO SUCCEED TO GET ON BASE AT ALL COSTS.

HMM. I THINK I'D BE HAPPIER IF HE HAD DODGED IT

OKADA-KUN...

OKADA HAS KEPT OUR HOPES ALIVE!

THE SPIRIT OF "ONE FOR ALL."

YOU'RE UP NEXT, REMEMBER?

W-WHAT ARE YOU SAYING, YUFUNE?!

PUT SOME SPIRIT INTO IT!

SPIRIT?

.....

IT'S LIKE YOU GUYS ARE ALL DRINKING THE CRAZY KOOL-AID.

KAAAAH, GEEZ I CAN'T BELIEVE WE'RE REALLY TRYING TO WIN THIS.

WHO CARES ABOUT YOUR PRIDE?

IT'S SO EMBAR-RASS-ING!

NO! I CAN'T!

USE THE SPIRIT BATTING STYLE!

OH... YES, THAT'S RIGHT! SPIRIT!

WHA...

W-WE FORGOT ABOUT THAT THING, YUFUNE! YOU REMEMBER! DO THAT!

CAT SWING?

COME ON, YUFUNE, I'M SERIOUS! USE THE CAT SWING!

I'M SERIOUS! YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE HOW GOOD IT WORKS!

RIGHT?

DON'T LOOK AT ME FOR SUPPORT!

YEAH! WE FOUND OUT DURING PRACTICE THAT YUFUNE HITS A LOT BETTER WHEN HE YELLS SOME-THING.

SPIRIT BAT-TING?

.....

NO WAY! NEVER! I'M NOT GONNA DO THAT IN PUBLIC!

PLEASE!

PLEASE, YUFUNE!

I DON'T CARE IF IT'S A FLUKE! WE NEED IT!

THE CAT SWING IS THE ONLY THING WE CAN COUNT ON NOW!

WHY?! THAT WAS JUST A FLUKE, NOTHING MORE!

IF THERE'S A CHANCE YOUR ELITE HIGH SCHOOL SWING CAN MAKE AN IMPACT IN THE MOST ADVANTAGEOUS SITUATION POSSIBLE, WHY NOT BET ON IT?

YOUR SWING IS EVERY BIT AS GOOD AS SHINJO'S AND ANIYA'S! IN FACT, IT MIGHT BE BETTER!

YUFUNE

!

IT'S PRO-LEVEL ALREADY

ELITE HIGH SCHOOL ...?

EL...

I'M ON IT, COACH.

BUT I DON'T KNOW IF THIS "SHOUTING" WILL HELP MUCH

THIS IS COMING AFTER A DEAD BALL, SO HE'LL JOB AN EASY ONE OVER THE PLATE. SINCE YUFUNE IS ALWAYS SWINGING ON THE FIRST PITCH, THAT'S A GOOD THING...

I GOT PRO-LEVEL TOOLS ...

PRO-LEVEL ...

PLAY BALL!

BUT WHEN HE DOES THE CAT SWING, YUFUNE UN-LEASHES A TORRENT OF MIRACLE POWER

IT'S TRUE, IT'S ONLY A SHOUT.

PRETTY MUCH A SUPERSTITION, NOTHING MORE.

CAT...

MEOWWWWW!

ガブッ

MEOWWW ?!

I I" "I

.....

D-DAMN, THAT WAS FAST!

OH SHIT, IT WENT THROUGH HIS LEGS!

Y-YESSS! HE DID IT!

WHOA!

WHOAAAA! THAT'S PRO!

SAFE!

RUN RUN RUN!

RUUUUN!

UMMF!

WE GOT A RUN BACK!

ONE RUN!

GOD, THAT WAS EMBAR-RASSING!

SAAAAFE !!

YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT! YOU SEE THAT?!

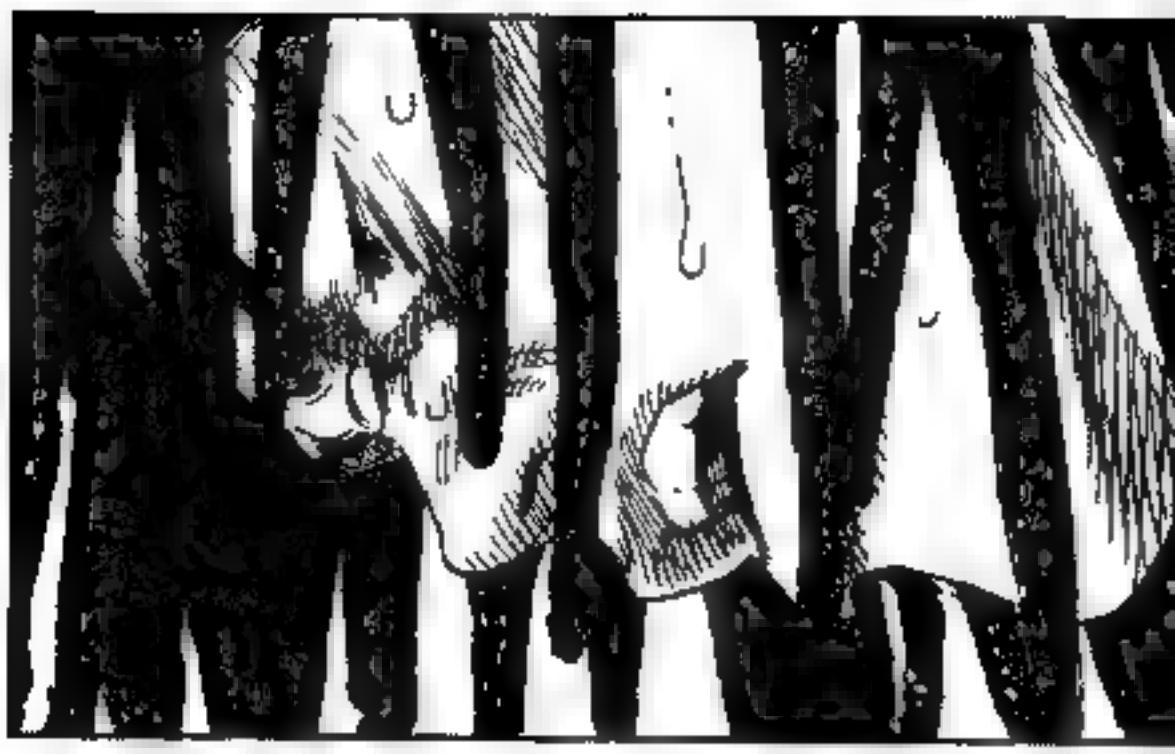
.....

YEAAAAH! YUFUNE!
SHUT UP! DON'T SAY IT!
MEOWWW!

WE'RE GETTIN' BACK IN THIS GAME.

YOU KNOW IT.

ドン



AND RUNNERS ON FIRST AND THIRD!

ALL RIGHT! THAT'S ONE RUN BACK!

IMAOKA! KEEP THIS RALLY GOING!

Vol.120

A Dream for Some Point

WE ARE GOING TO WIN THIS GAME!

NOW LET'S SHOW THEM WHAT NIKOGAKU BASEBALL IS TRULY ABOUT!

HE REALLY DID HIT THE BALL WHEN HE EMITTED THAT BIZARRE SCREECH

THAT WASN'T A LAZY PITCH FROM ENATSU...

DON'T WORRY! WE CAN DO THIS!

THEY'VE MADE THE EFFORTS REQUIRED TO PULL IT OFF!

IT WAS THE PRODUCT OF YUFUNE'S EFFORT AND INSTINCT.

NOT A COINCIDENCE IN THE LEAST!

YOU THINK THIS IS SOME KINDA JOKE?!

SHUT UP! YOU SUCK, BITCH!

RIGHT?

NOBODY WOULD HAVE CAUGHT THAT

ptw

WHAT?!

WHAT'D YOU CALL ME?!

THAT WAS A DOUBLE PLAY! GAME OVER!

IT WENT STRAIGHT THROUGH YOUR LEGS!

AHH, SHUT UP.

BALL FOUR!

TAKE YOUR BASE!

.....

FUCK THIS.

B-BASES LOADED...

WE'VE GOT THE BASES JUICED..

SHUT UP! STEP DOWN!

HEY, WHAT THE HEL.. ARE YOU DOING?!

.....

TAKE IT EASY, ENATSU! JUST TWO MORE!

COME ON! I KNOW, MAN.

DON'T BE SILLY!

GEEZ, I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU GUYS ARE SERI-OUS.

OH WELL, WHATEVER.

OW OW OW! LET GO!

C-C'MON, SEKIKAWA! WE NEED A HIT, HERE!

A PLAN?!

THERE A N'T NOTHIN' I CAN'T STEAL.

DON'T WORRY. I'VE GOT A PLAN.

WHAT DOES HE MEAN, NOTHING HE CAN'T STEAL?

PLAY BALL!

MEOWWWW!

YOU DON'T MEAN...

NOOOO! A GROUNDER TO SHORT-STOP!

THAT'S THE WORST THING THAT COULD HAPPEN!

OH GOD, I WAS RIGHT!

YOU CAN'T JUST EXPECT THAT TO...

WHAT AN IDIOT!

THAT COULD BE IT!

SHIT!

ARGH...

4!

6!

DOUBLE PLAY BALL!

THR...

NNG...

WHA...

HUH?

BACK HOME !

HEY, GET THE BALL!

AAAAAAH! IMAO-KAAAA!

WHY WAS HE SO CLOSE ?!

THAT WAS RIGHT IN THE FACE!

THAT'S FIVE RUNS!

YEAH, TWO GUYS SCORED!

IT'S 9-5, NOW!

9

HELL YEAAAAAH!

IMAO-KA!

BUT...

W-WE DID IT!

WEH HEH HEH ...

EHE HEH

ドﾞﾊﾞ

ドﾞﾊﾞ

DUDE.. ARE YOU..

HEY... HE'S STAND-ING!

IMAOKA-KUN!

UH... YOU OKAY?

HE-HE-HE-HEH.

AND THANKS TO MY MAD DASH, WE PLATED TWO RUNS ON THE PLAY FOUR-RUN GAME, NOW!

W-WELL, THAT WAS HARSH ON IMAOKA, BUT HE *DID* BREAK UP THE DOUBLE PLAY ..

AAAAH! IMAOKA!

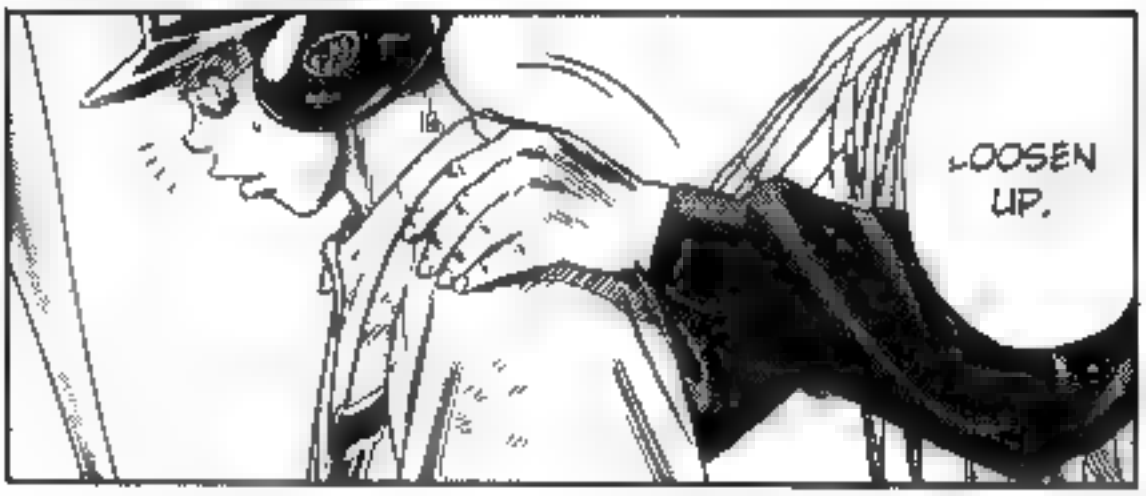
IMAOKA!

HUH?

MIKO-SHIBA.

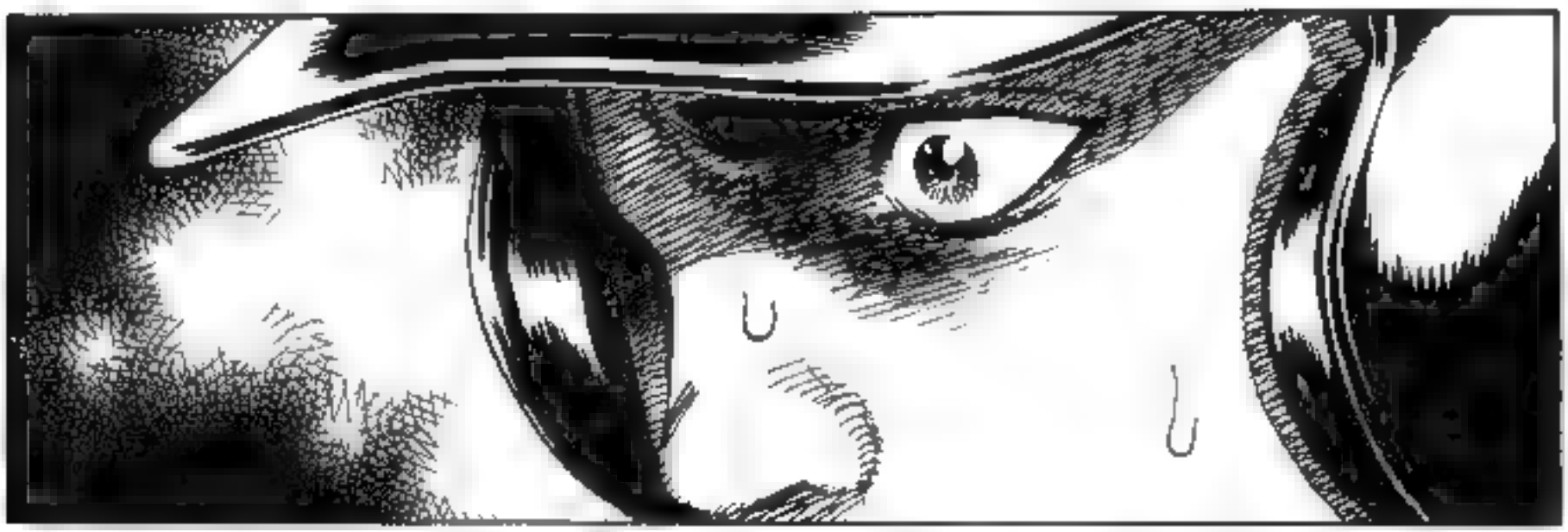
IT'S ALL UP TO YOU, NOW.

NINTH INNING, TWO OUTS, RUNNER ON FIRST BASE.


LOOSEN UP.

DON'T WORRY! PLAY IT LOOSE!
YOU HAVE A BAD HABIT OF BEING PESSIMISTIC.

Ahhh...
ALL UP TO ME



.....
TIME OUT!

T-TIME..
UMM..

PLAY BALL!

MIKOSHIBA, QUIT BEIN' A PUSSY!

NOSE HAIR JACK-ASS!

!

.....

OH, COME ON...

.....

.....

NOSE HAIR?

HE GOT THAT POKIN' OUT?

PLAY BALL!

NOSE HAIR JACK-ASS...

HE'S RUNNING!

SHUT UP!

GET HIM!

ACK!
NOSE HAIR JACK-ASS...

THAT'S THE SIGNAL FOR HIT-AND-RUN!

CRAP, HE WENT BEHIND ME!

THE SECOND HITTER IS A GUY WHO CAN PUSH THE RUNNER TO THE NEXT BASE.

THE LEADOFF HITTER IS ALWAYS A GUY WHO IS FAST AND CAN GET ON BASE.

THEN I'D BE FIRST, AND YOU'D BE SECOND.

GYAHAHAHA! YOU'RE THE PERFECT FOIL TO MAKE ME LOOK BETTER!

SOMETIMES I DREAM OF BEING IN A GAME.

HUH?

.....

I WAS JUST KIDDING, DON'T TAKE IT PER-SONAL.

I'M NOT MAD.

I'M THE LAST BATTER.

AND IT COMES UP TO ME IN THE NINTH, WITH THE GAME ON THE LINE.

IT'S JUST TWO OF US NOW, BUT IN THE DREAM, THERE'S ANIYA AND WAKANA AND ALL THE OTHERS.

.....

...ALL BECAUSE OF ME.

AND THE NEXT THING I KNOW, EVERYONE'S QUIT, AND LEFT THE TEAM...

BUT I ALWAYS SCREW UP SOMEHOW, AND WE LOSE.

I JUST WANT TO HELP EVERYONE ELSE SHINE...
HEH. I DON'T REALLY CARE ABOUT BEING THE HERO.

IF WE EVER DO GET TO PLAY A GAME...
AND THAT SITUATION COMES UP...

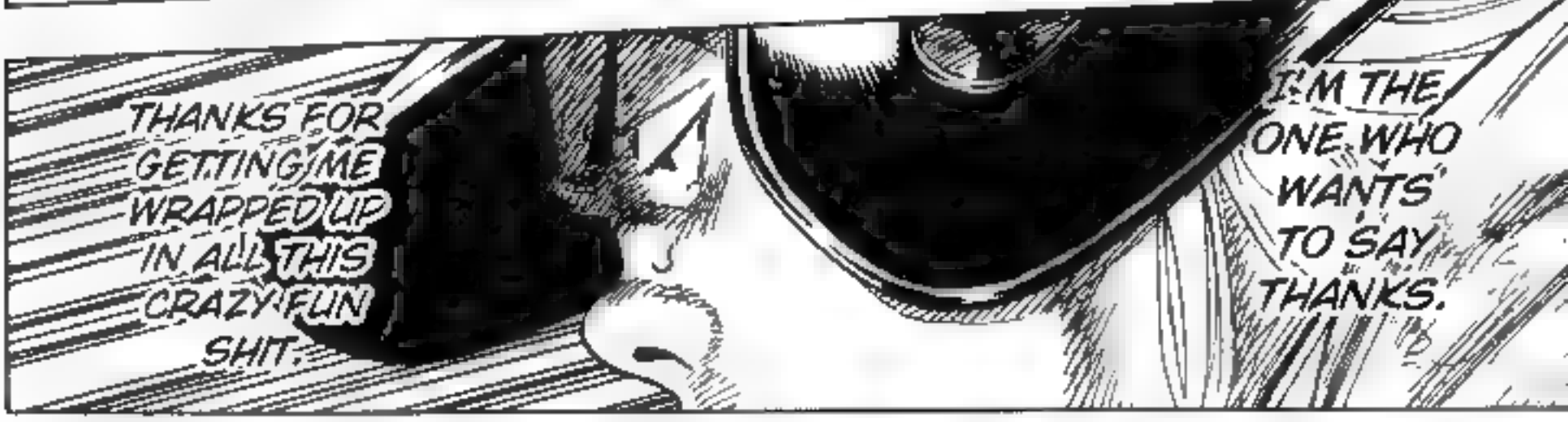
MIKO-SHIBA...

I'D WANT TO KEEP IT GOING, AND HELP US WIN AND CELEBRATE TOGETHER.
AS A TEAM.

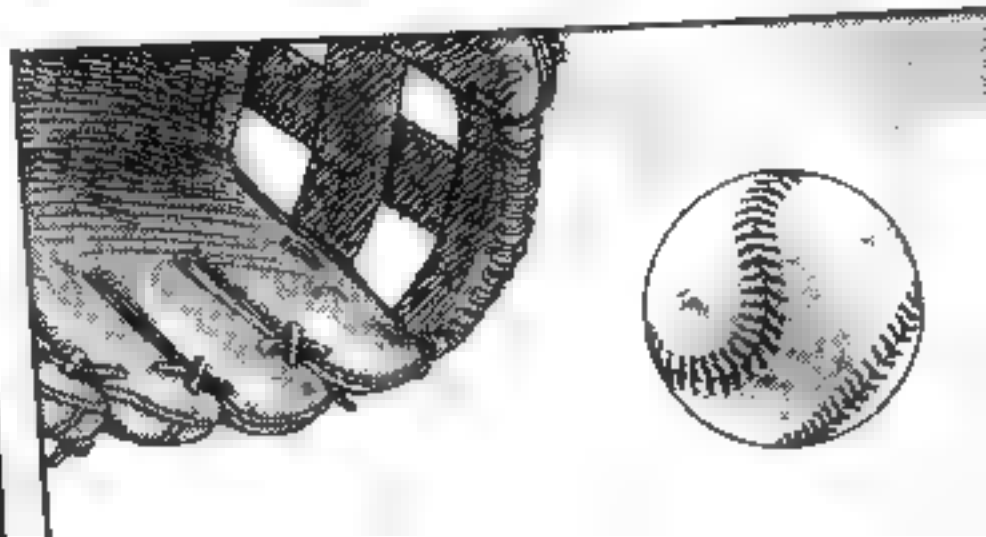
.....

THANKS FOR JOINING.
HEHEM... SEKI-KAWA.

shit


THANKS FOR GETTING ME WRAPPED UP IN ALL THIS CRAZY FUN SHIT.
I'M THE ONE WHO WANTS TO SAY THANKS.

BOOM



THROUGH THE HOLE!

SAAAAFE!

GRR!

MIKOSHI-BAAAAA!

YEAAAAAH!

NICE HITTING, BABY! NICE BAT!

.....

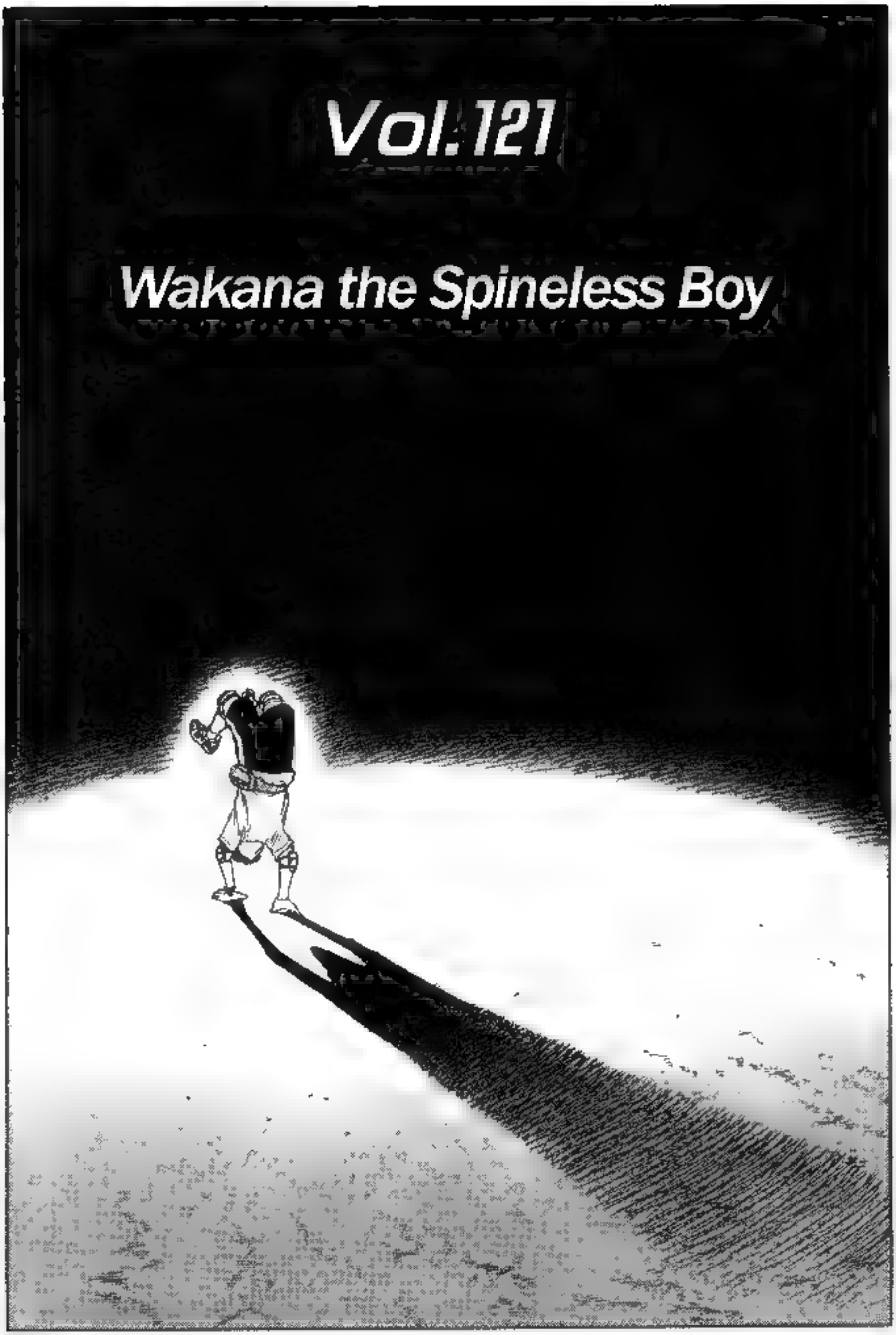
.....

... CAPTAIN.

HEH! YOU'RE MORE THAN A FOIL...

Vol.121

Wakana the Spineless Boy



OUR HOPE IS STILL ALIVE!

T-THEY DID IT...

THAT'S FOUR MORE RUNS TO SCORE ..

BUT THERE ARE TWO OUTS IN THE NINTH INNING

AND THAT'S THREE RUNS IN THE INNING!

THEY WERE DOWN BY SEVEN AT THE START

MAYBE JUST MAYBE

OKAY, WAKANA!

!

AAAH?

.....

WHAT?

DON'T LOOK AT ME

.....

WE KEPT THE RALLY!

THE INNING'S STILL ALIVE, ANIYA!

WE DID IT!

.....

YESSSS!!

WHAT YOU REALLY THINK

YOU'RE UP TWO BATTERS LATER!

WAIT, WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?!

GO BACK TO THE BENCH AND GET READY, ANIYA!

HA HA HA... I KEPT IT G

BUNCH OF LUCKY FLUKES, THAT'S ALL

KEH! IDIOTS. THEY STILL THINK THEY'RE GONNA WIN.

IT'S THE SAME DIRT THAT THEY USE AT THE KOSHIEN.

IF IT TAKES FLUKES, I'M FINE WITH THAT

WE'RE GONNA WIN.

YOU KNOW THE DIRT WE USE FOR THIS FIELD YOU'RE STANDING ON NOW?

WANT ME TO TELL YOU SOME-THING?

YOU SEE WHAT KIND OF LEVEL WE'RE ON? WAY ABOVE YOUR HEAD, KID. WE PRACTICE ON KOSHIEN DIRT, WHERE WE BELONG.

WE GET IT FROM THE SAME PLACE THEY DO, WHEREVER THAT IS.
GAHAHA! SUR-PRISED?
.....

GA HA HA.
.....

.....!?
IF YOU REALLY WANT TO KNOW, WE USE KOSHIEN DIRT, TOO.
WHAT ?!

!

IT'S JUST DIRT.

DON'T FORGET, YOU SCREWED UP THAT DOUBLE PLAY, TOO!

SHUT UP! IF YOU DON'T LIKE IT, MAYBE YOU SHOULDN'T BE GETTING SOCKED AROUND!

FUCK OFF AND DIE, ALL OF YOU! YOU ALL SUCK!

TOKYO

.....

!

WHAT THE FUCK, DAMMIT ?!

IF YOU COULD HAVE SIT STILL, THAT WOULD BE A GROUNDER TO SECOND! GAME OVER!

WHAT?

SO WHAT IF YOU HAVE THIS DIRT?

!?

M

WHO CARES ..?

.....

TO THE TEAMS WHO WORK, AND WORK, AND PULL TOGETHER AS ONE... TO SEIZE THE R SPOT.

THE DIRT OF THE KOSHIEN IS ONLY GIVEN...

ISN'T IT, ANIYA!

ISN'T IT! OKAY, IT'S A BIT LIGHTER THAN THIS
THE DIRT ON OUR FIELD IS WAY MORE KOSHIEN-LIKE
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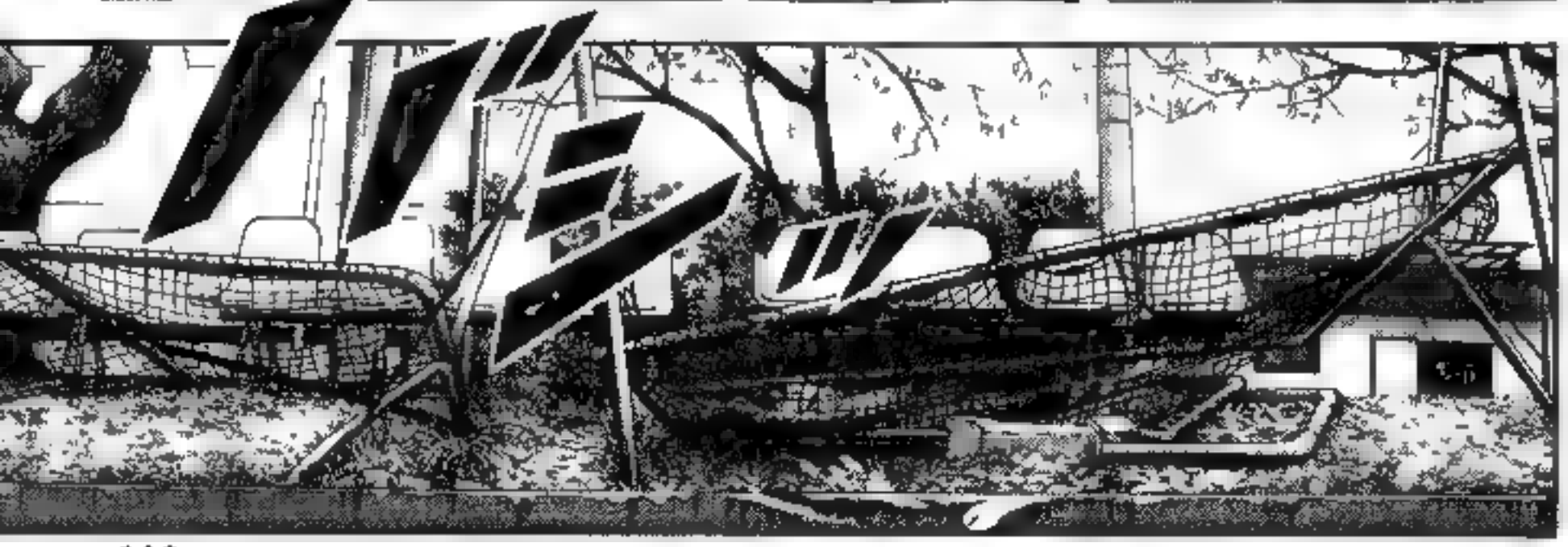


WHAT ?!

YEAH! LEAVE!

GOD-DAMNIT, WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT FOR?!

IF YOU AREN'T GONNA TRY, THEN YOU CAN LEAVE!

HNGGG

HNGGG

.....

LISTEN TO YOU, GETTING CARRIED AWAY LITTLE KIDS.

KEH. BUNCHA CRAZY DORKS.

NNG ...

6
GET UP.
HUH?
IT'S YOUR TURN TO BAT

WHAT ...?

TCH.

.....

EVERY-THING WE DO IS FOR THE VICTORY

WE WERE DOWN SEVEN RUNS, A NEARLY IMPOSSIBLE DEFICIT. THE TEAM HAS SCRAMBLED TO KEEP ITS HOPES ALIVE.

IT'S TRUE THAT SOME OF OUR RUNS WERE LUCKY
THIS WAS ALL JUST LUCK

DIDN'T YOU CATCH THE *FOUR* HOMERS THEY JUST HIT?

NO, THEY'D COME BACK WITH THEIR TALENT, NOT LUCK.

HUH?

BUT LOOK ON THE OTHER SIDE! IF IT WAS NIKOGAKU THAT WAS AHEAD BY SEVEN RUNS...

MEGURO-GAWA WOULD NOT HAVE CLAWED BACK THIS WAY!

BASEBALL IS A TEAM SPORT.

HOW THE HELL WOULD I KNOW?

DO YOU THINK THEY COULD STAND TO HAVE THE HOPE IN ONE ANOTHER TO MAKE UP A DEFICIT LIKE THAT?!

EACH OF THEIR PLAYERS IS CONVINCED OF HIS OWN SKILL.

THEY DO NOT ATTEMPT "TEAMWORK," FOR THAT WOULD REQUIRE RELYING ON SOMEONE ELSE.

YEOW!

WE'RE NIKOGAKU!

OWWW, OWWW! LET GO, DAMMIT!

WE RAISED THIS TEAM FROM NOTHING! AS A GROUP!

WE GOT THIS FAR BY NEVER GIVING!

.....

I WANT TO SEE YOU BELIEVE IN WHAT YOU'VE BUILT WITH YOUR OWN HANDS, AND FIGHT TO THE END!

IT'S EASY TO GIVE UP!

BUT BEFORE THEN...

MAKE THIS THE ONE TIME YOU DON'T GIVE UP!

REMEMBER THE CRAZY THINGS YOU'VE ATTEMPTED BEFORE IN YOUR LIFE?!

!

WHO CARES ABOUT FOUR RUNS? YOU HIT AN INCREDIBLE TRIPLE TODAY!

YOU DON'T GIVE UP UNTIL THE MOMENT THE GAME IS OVER!

IT DOESN'T MATTER IF THE TEAM IS 10 RUNS DOWN, OR EVEN 20!

SHUT UP! DON'T BRING THAT UP...

THEY SAY THIS IS THE SAME DIRT THEY USE AT KOSHIEN STADIUM.

WHAT?!

WHA..

NO WAY! SERIOUS-LY?!

THESE GUYS HAVE SOME NERVE!

HELL YEAH!

OKAY, YUFUINE! TAKE OVER THE FIRST BASE COACH'S BOX FOR ANIYA!

WE GOTTA PROVE TO THESE GUYS THAT THEY AIN'T FIT TO STEP ON THE SOIL OF DREAMS !!

GET ON BASE, WAKANA!
DO ANYTHING YOU CAN TO KEEP THIS INNING GOING!

THEY ALL BE-LIEVE IN YOU.

2

I'LL WALK TO THE DAMN *KOSHIEN* ON MY HANDS, THIS TIME.

SHIT ...

STRIIIKE!

HE'S THROW-ING IT OFF THE PLATE!

DON'T RUSH IT, WAKANA!

WAKANA...

SO WHAT? I DIDN'T ASK YOU TO FILM ME!

WHAT? Y-YOU'RE GIVING UP ALREADY ?!

WE ALREADY AIRED THE PREVIEW YESTER-DAY!

WAKANA ...

AAHH.. HE'S DOWN IN THE COUNT.

STRIIIKE!

HEH... IT'S NOT LIKE WE WERE GONNA WIN...

BEFORE, I WOULD HAVE HIT THAT...

GRR...

IT'S NOT LIKE HE WAS GONNA DO IT.

LET'S JUST GO.

WHAT A DORK.

KYAHA-HAHA!

YEAH, HE SEEMS REALLY LAME, NOW.

DAMMIT...

DAMMIT...

AAAAAHHHH!!

"THEY ALL BELIEVE IN YOU."

TH

GAH!

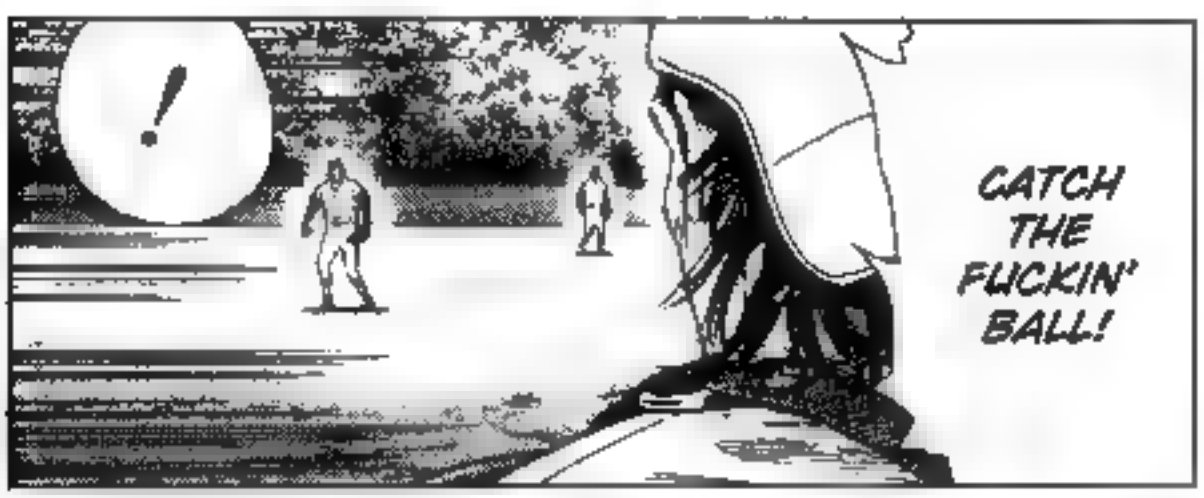
Vol.122
Here Comes the Clean-Up!

AAAAAH! HE POPPED IT UP...

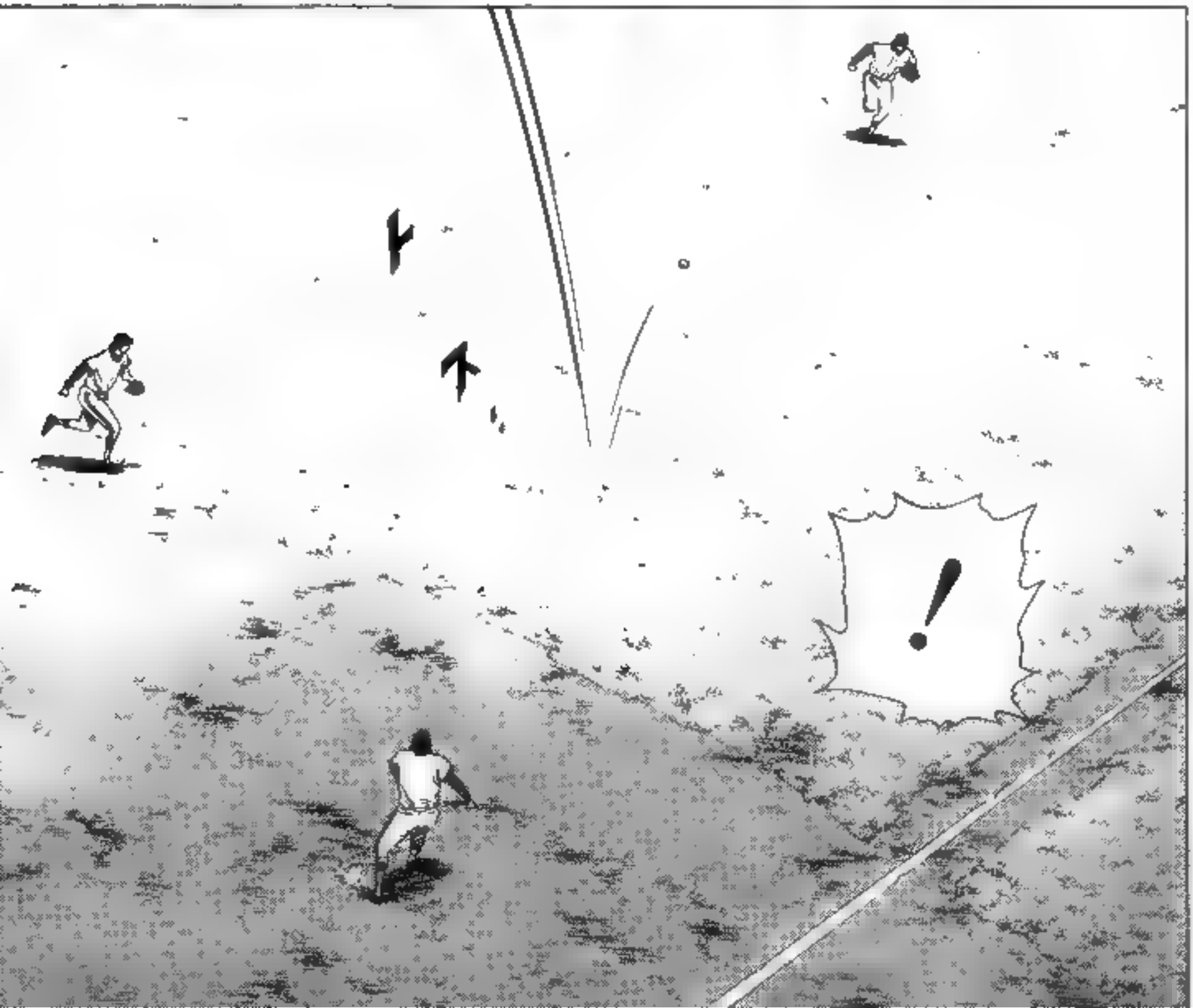
HEH

OH SHIT, RIGHT!

TWO OUTS! RUN, GUYS!


!
CATCH THE FUCKIN' BALL!

HMPH.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ARE YOU SERIOUS ?!

THERE'S ANOTHER RUN!

IT'S A BLOOP HIT!

WHOA... IT DROPPED IN!

YES. . STILL ALIVE!

HI!!!

YEAAAAAAAH!

WHOA.

.....

WHAT THE FUCK!

WHAT ?!

IF IT GOES INTO THE OUTFIELD, THAT'S THE OUT-FIELDERS' BALL!

THAT WAS YOURS TO CATCH, IDIOT!

WHO ...

DID YOU SEE THAT ?!

YOU SEE THAT ?!

UP NEXT

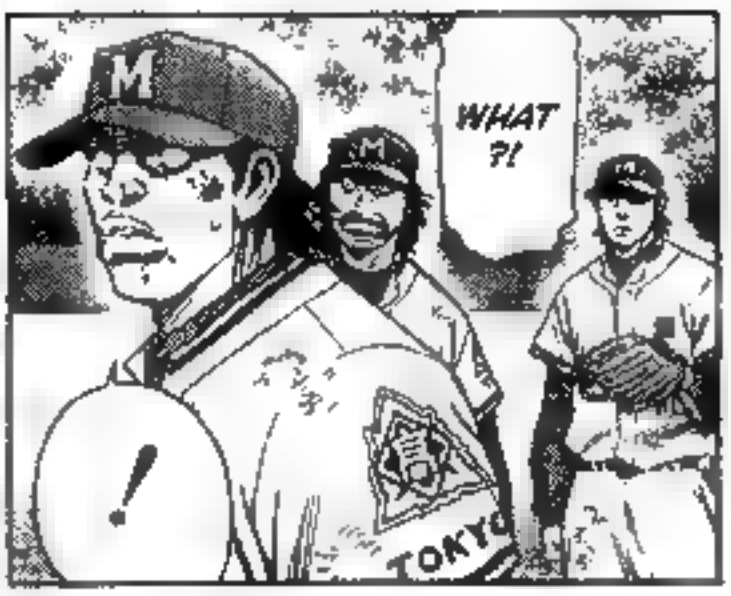
AND STILL RUNNERS ON FIRST AND THIRD BASE

IT'S A THREE-RUN GAME, NOW

NOT NOW...

W-WHOA, WAIT..
IF YOU WOULD HAVE...

.....
WHOA ...


M
WHAT
?!
!
TOKYO

ANIYA .
ANIYA-
KUN...

M
M
ANIYA...
IT'S
ANIYA
NOW

M
ptu

.....

.....

C-COME ON, MAN... WE NEED A BIG ONE, NOW..

.....

ニヤリ

サラ

サラ

MAN, YOU SOUND LIKE MIKO-SHIBA

HUH?

IT'S NOTHING COMPARED TO THE DIRT FULL OF YOUR BLOOD, SWEAT AND TEARS, BACK HOME.

I DON'T FEEL ANYTHING FROM THIS FIELD

IT'S JUST BLACK DIRT.

DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE JEALOUS OF THEM.

AND MAKE IT COUNT

I'M GONNA HIT THE BALL.

QUIT STATIN' THE OBVIOUS, TOOL.

ANIYA!

YOU'RE NOT *WORRIED* ABOUT ME, ARE YOU?

ALL RIGHT. SHOW US WHAT YOU'VE GOT

KEI-CHAN...

WHOA..

Sign: Hanshin Koshien Stadium

ANIYA-KUN.

BATTING FOURTH, THE PITCHER ...

Sugii Aniya

PLAY BALL!

THROW IT OUTSIDE, ENATSU. OFF THE PLATE.

HE'S LOOKING TO HIT THE FIRST PITCH...

.....

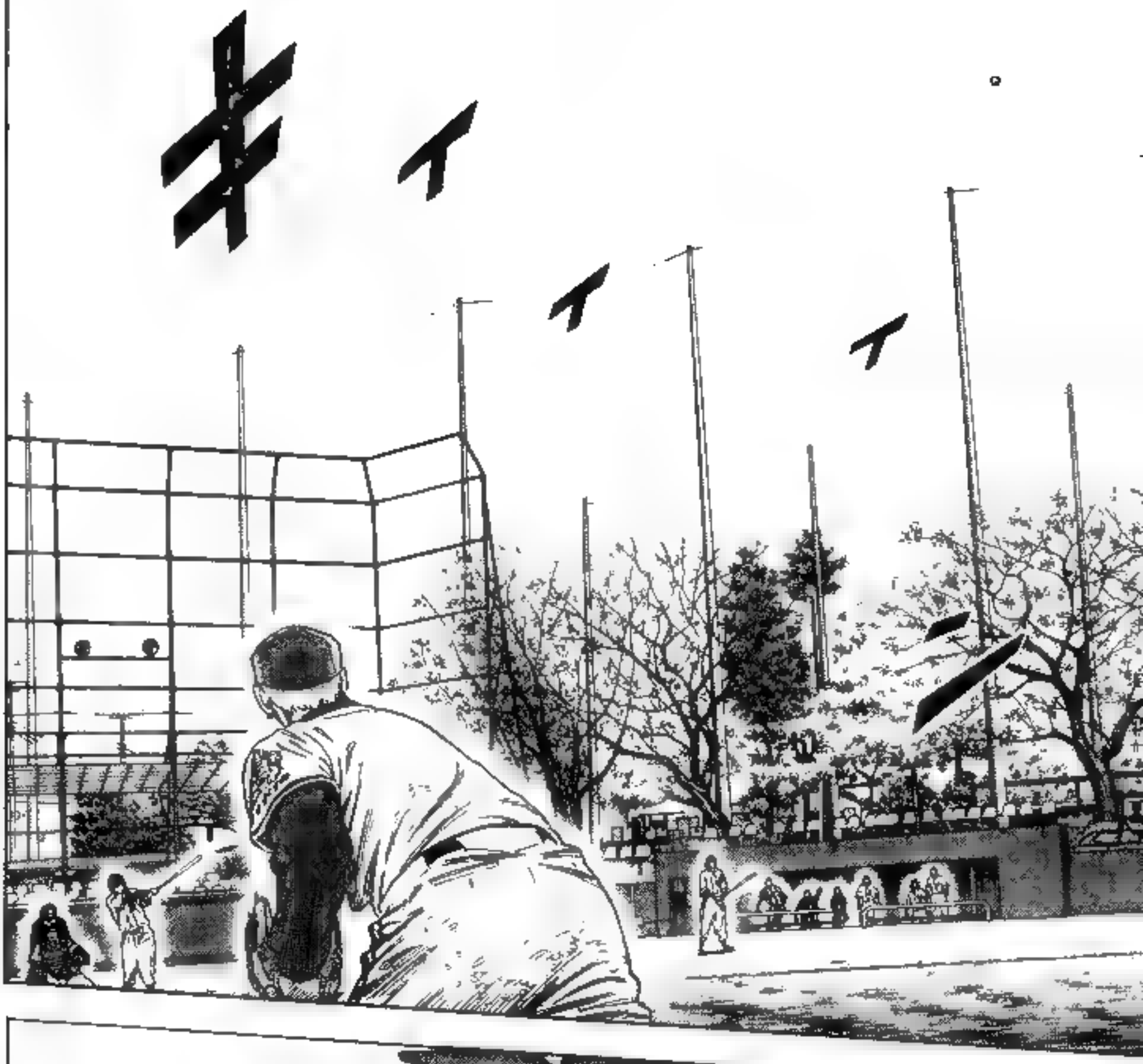
ptu

目黒

TOKYO

RIGHT DOWN THE MIDDLE ...

HI-YA!!



THERE IT GOES!

GET OUTTA HERE! PLEASE!

IT'S GONE

YOU IDIOT!

SI'''

AAAAH! OFF THE FENCE!

DAMN!

A DOUBLE! THAT'S A DOUBLE!

DAMMIT! SO CLOSE!

H''' H''' H'''

!

RUNNERS ON SECOND AND THIRD!

AND ANOTHER RUN IN!

KEI-CHAN...

DAM-MIT...!

IF THAT HAD GONE OUT IT WOULD BE TIED.

AAWWW...

GOD.

OKAY! WE'RE ONLY TWO RUNS BEHIND, NOW!!

SHINJO!!

JUST TWO MORE RUNS..

A-ARE YOU SERIOUS..?

WE'VE BATTED AROUND, THIS INNING

TIME!

TIME OUT.

.....

ナ"

ナ"

YOU WANT ME TO WALK HIM?

SHUT THE FUCK UP! WHY WOULD I WALK A GUY?!

FIRST BASE IS OPEN. WE'LL CHALLENGE THE NEXT GUY WITH THE BASES LOADED

ARE YOU TRYING TO LOSE THIS GAME?!

DON'T YOU KNOW WHAT THAT SHINJO GUY CAN DO?! YOU'RE TIRED! YOUR VELOCITY AIN'T THE SAME AS WHEN WE STARTED!

ナ"

M

OKYO

M

.....

ptu

.....

PLAY BALL!

WHOA.. HE'S GOIN' AFTER HIM! NO WALK!

!

FUCK, MAN!

DEAD BALL! TAKE YOUR BASE!

H-HE HIT HIM...

BASES LOADED... BASES LOADED, GUYS!

Vol.123

Top of the Ninth, Two Outs, Bases Loaded

HOW MANY TIMES DO YOU HAVE TO HIT THEM BEFORE YOU'RE HAPPY, ENATSU?!

SHUT UP!

NOT AGAIN, DAMMIT!

WHY ARE THESE LOSERS GIVING US SUCH A HARD TIME?

WHY ...?

TWO RUNS...

DAMN...

NO NEED TO GO AFTER THE TOUGHER BATTER... THE NEXT GUY WILL BE AN EASY OUT.

THIS IS GOOD...

.....

.. WE MIGHT WIN ..?

HA... HA HA... YOU DON'T THINK...

YEAH! KEEP IT GOING!

GUTS! SHOW US WHAT YOU'RE MADE OF, BOY!

.....

DO ANYTHING YOU CAN TO GET A HIT!

HIYAMAAAA! GET A HIT!

!

WHAT, *HE'S* UP NEXT?

.....

GYAHAHAHA! GAME OVER, SON!

IT'S THE BEARDED STRIKEOUT KING!

WHEW! FINALLY, WE GET TO LEAVE!

It

WHAT THE FUCK...

GYAHAHA! HE'S THE ONLY GUY ON THE TEAM WHO AIN'T WORTH JACK SHIT!

SHUT YOUR MOUTH, OR I'LL SHUT IT FOR YOU!

JUST YOU WATCH, BITCH!

I'M GONNA HIT A MOTHERFUCKING COME-FROM-BEHIND GRAND SLAM TO WIN THE GAME!

IT'S FUNNY, THERE'S ALWAYS ONE GUY ON THE TEAM WHO'S NOTHING MORE THAN DEAD WEIGHT!

.....!

BET YOUR ASS I'LL SMACK A HIT...

I'LL GET A HIT...

WHY DO I FEEL LIKE I'M FORGETTING SOMETHING?

HMM .. ?

WE'RE GONNA TAKE THE LEAD! NOW DO IT!

THAT'S RIGHT! YOU TELL HIM, HIYAMA! SOCK A GOOD ONE!!

I CAN DO THIS... I CAN DO IT...

HE SAYS I AIN'T WORTH JACK SHIT?! DEAD WEIGHT?! FUCK THAT... FUCK THAT!

YOU CAN DO IT, HIYAMA!

I CAN DO IT...

SHUT UP! I KNOW THAT, DAMMIT!

YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO! GET OUT, AND THE GAME'S OVER!

KAWATO-KUN.

I KNOW.

Okada

Hiyama

HIYAMA-KUN...

I AIN'T GONNA BE THE GUY DRAGGIN' US DOWN.

EVERYONE ELSE IS WORKIN' FOR THE TEAM...

SHUT UP! I KNOW WHAT TO DO!

HIYAMA.

.....

SHIT!

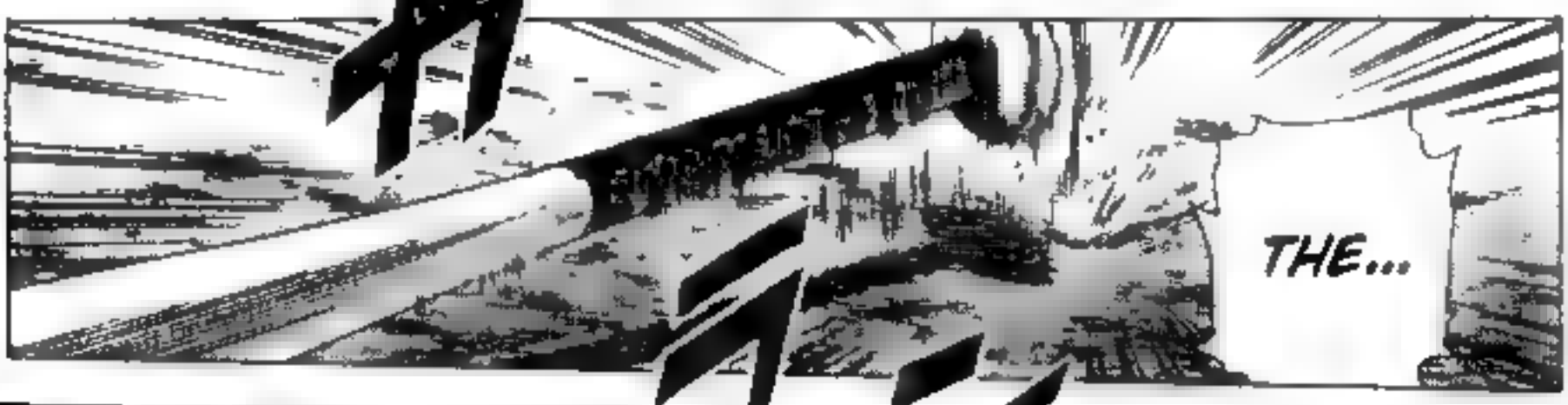
SHIT!

MM?

PINCH HITTER,
HIRATSUKA.

WHAT...

WHA...


THE...

...FUCK IS THIS ABOUT ?!

IS IT BECAUSE I'M DEAD WEIGHT?!

IS IT BECAUSE I'M USE-LESS?!

WHY?!

DAMMIT, KAWATO, WHY?!

WHY ARE YOU HITTING FOR ME?!

.....

W-WAIT A MINUTE, KAWATO!

I FORGOT ..

...I..

.....

COME ON! SAY SOME-THING, DAMN YOU!

HELL YEAH!

NIKOGAKU'S SECRET WEAPON! NIKOGAKU'S SECRET ME!

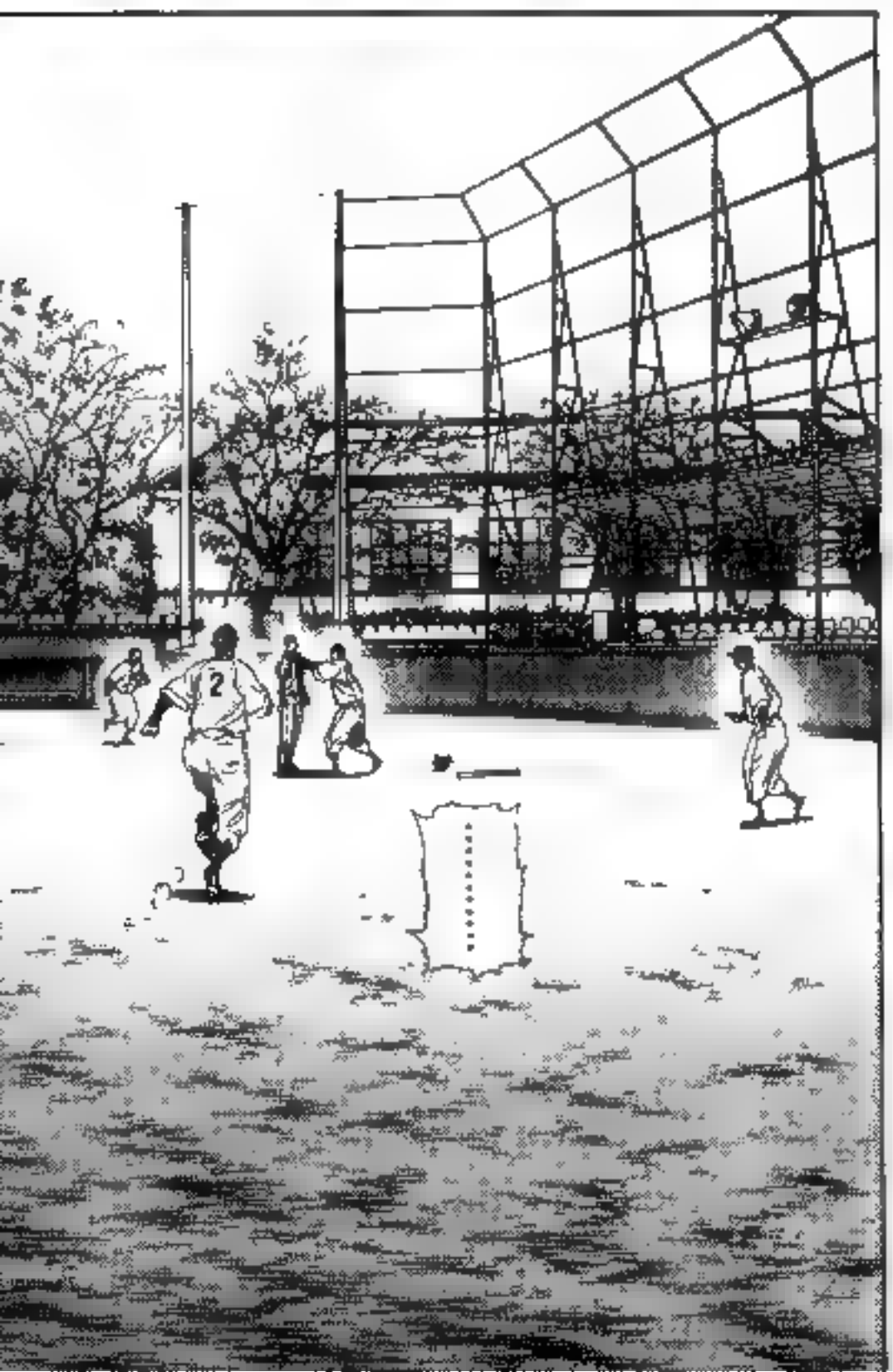
ビーカイッ!!

HANG ON, HERE I... BWAA-AGH!

YESS-SSS!

I FORGOT ABOUT MEEEE!

ドカ!!!



JESUS, SOME-ONE COULD GET HURT! LIKE ME!

G-GODDAMNIT, WHAT'S THIS STUPID HOLE DOING HERE?!

HEY, DAMMIT! DON'T MESS UP OUR PUTTING PRACTICE HOLE! WATCH IT!

WHA...

KKH...

I'M TAKING YOU OUT.

.....

GET BACK TO THE BENCH, HIYAMA.

COME ON, KAWATO! THAT'S JUST COLD, MAN!

.....

DON'T ACT LIKE I AIN'T!

COME ON! I'M A MEMBER OF THE TEAM, TOO!

HE'S BEEN A MEMBER OF THE TEAM THIS WHOLE TIME!

HE'S BEEN FIGHTING AS HARD AS THE REST OF US!

WHY WOULD YOU DO THIS?!

TO WIN.

...

HIYAMA HAS STRUCK OUT THREE TIMES AND POPPED OUT IN FOUL TERRITORY.

HE'S NOT HITTING THE BALL

SO WHAT?! ARE YOU SAYING YOU THINK HE WON'T HIT IT AGAIN, THIS TIME?!

EVEN LESS LIKELY THAN HIRA-TSUKA?!

EXACTLY.

I SAW THE FOUR STRIKEOUTS YOU HAD LAST GAME!

SHUT UP! I ONLY SHOW OFF MY TRUE POWER IN THESE SITUATIONS! THIS IS THE TIME WHEN YOU NEED THE LONG SHOT!

YOU HIT LIKE YOU'RE BUYING LOTTERY TICKETS!

DIDN'T YOU SEE WHAT I DID AT BATTING PRACTICE ?!

YEAH, EXAC-TLY!

COME ON, CAPTAIN! STICK UP FOR YOUR TEAMMATE!

HUH...? W-WELL...

BUT I'D RATHER HAVE HIRATSUKA, WITH A ONE-IN-A-MILLION CHANCE...

...THAN A HIYAMA WITHOUT A CHANCE AT ALL...

BUT, THEN...

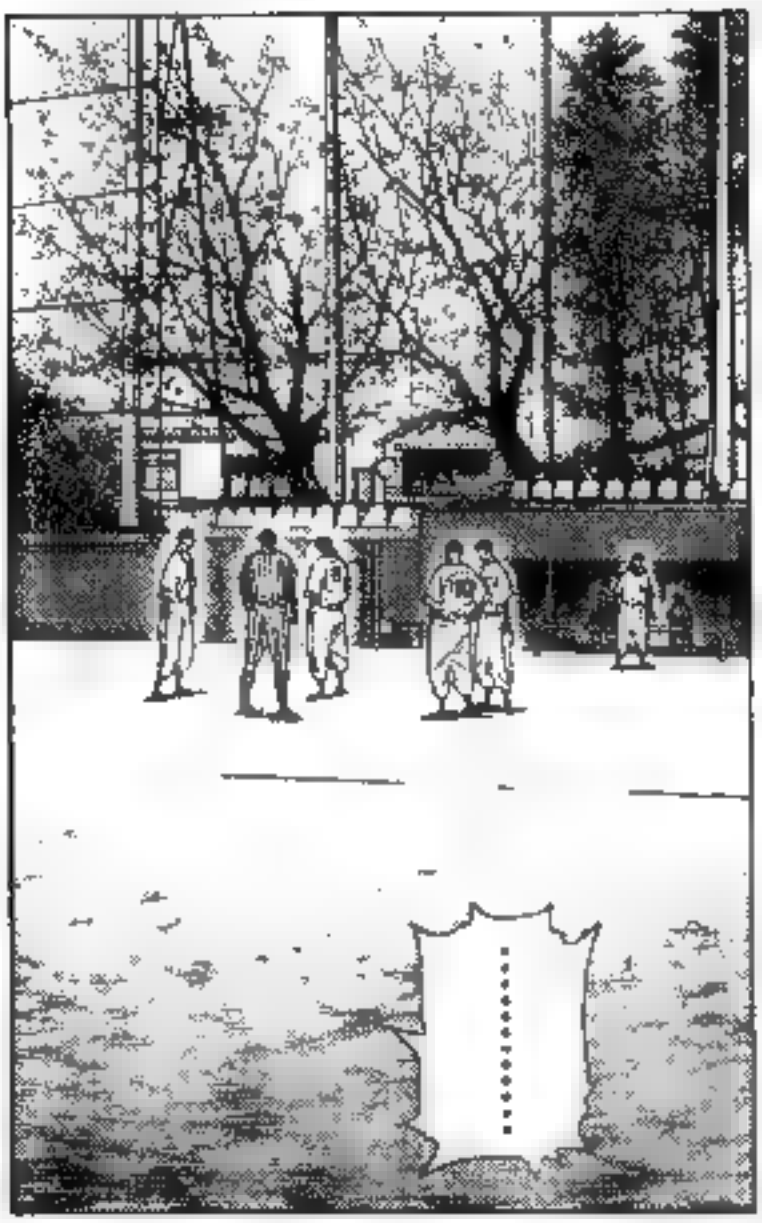
I'D LOVE FOR HIYAMA TO GET A HIT, HERE...

NO... I JUST DON'T KNOW...

WHY AM I THE CAPTAIN, ANYWAY? DAMMIT!

W-WHAT ARE YOU TALKIN' ABOUT?
WE CAN'T HELP IT!

!
WE GOTTA DO THE SWITCH. THAT'S JUST HOW IT HAS TO BE.


.....

BUT SENSEI'S RIGHT. YOU GOTTA DO WHAT IT TAKES TO WIN.
IT'S NOT LIKE I DON'T THINK HIYAMA CAN DO IT.

6
THAT'S WHAT TEAMWORK IS ALL ABOUT.

.....

THAT'S NORMAL FOR THEM.
THEY'RE NOT.
WHY ARE YOUR GUYS ARGUING AN' SHIT?

2
6

HUH?!
HIYAMA...
GO, HIRATSUKA. TAKE MY SPOT

YOU'RE

YOU JUST LEAVE IT TO ME, AND I WON'T DO YOU WRONG!
HA HA HA! THAT'S RIGHT!

SHOW 'EM THE DEPTH WE GOT AT NIKOGAKU!
DO IT, MAN!

R-
RIGHT...

.....

HIYAMA-
KUN...

COME ON, HIRA-TSUKA!

HIT A BIG ONE! CRUSH IT!

HIRA-TSU-KAA-AA!

.....

.....

SEKI-KAWA!

MAN, KAWATO CAN BE COLD, Y'KNOW?

THE WAY HE TOLD HIM TO SIT DOWN WAS JUST BRUTAL.

SENSEI...

THAT CHOICE WAS HARDER ON HIM THAN ANYONE ELSE...

THAT'S RIGHT... SENSEI KNOWS HOW HIYAMA-KUN FEELS...

.....

.....

IT'S PAINFUL, BUT YOU JUST HAVE TO BEAR IT, KAWATO-KUN.

THERE ARE TIMES WHEN A CRUEL CHOICE MUST BE MADE FOR THE TEAM'S SAKE.

Vol.124
All Options Exhausted, Awaiting God's Will

I'M NOT SCARED, DAMMIT!

I..

DON'T BE AN IDIOT!

STRIIIKE!

NRAA-AAH!

DOES HE EVEN KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE GAME?

THERE ARE TWO OUTS.

THAT PITCH WAS HIGH! WATCH THE BALL!

DAMMIT, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!

BUT WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO BET ON HIRATSUKA, NOW! WE'VE GOT TO TRUST HIM!
IT REALLY IS NO MORE THAN CONJEC-TURE...

Y-YOU DON'T KNOW THAT! HIRATSUKA CAN COME THROUGH IN A PINCH, TOO!
I THINK!
YOU THINK HIYAMA WAS THE BETTER CHOICE, AFTER ALL?

.....
I DON'T HEAR YOU CHEERING, SENSEI.

THE COACH CAN'T WASTE ALL HIS TIME FEELING SORRY FOR HIS PLAYERS.
HEH.. WHO CARES IF YOU PINCH-HIT FOR HIM?

ARE YOU EVEN LISTENING TO ME? HELP US WIN!
LISTEN TO HOW MUCH HIYAMA'S ROOTING FOR HIM!

HEY!
.....

.....

HIT WITH THE HIPS!

AND SPIN WITH YOUR HIPS, FOOL!

LOOK AT THE BALL, MAN!

OKADA-KUN...

STRII-IIKE!

WHAT?!

.....

YOU IDIOT! THAT ONE BOUNCED BEFORE IT REACHED THE CATCHER!

AWWW, SHIT!

THAT'S THE SPIRIT!

THAT'S WHAT I'M DOIN'! I'M THE MANLIEST GUY HERE! SHIT!

HIRA-TSU-KAAAA!

COME ON SHOW 'EM THE MAN YOU ARE!

SEN-SEI...

S...

THE FACE?

OH... RIGHT! THE FACE!

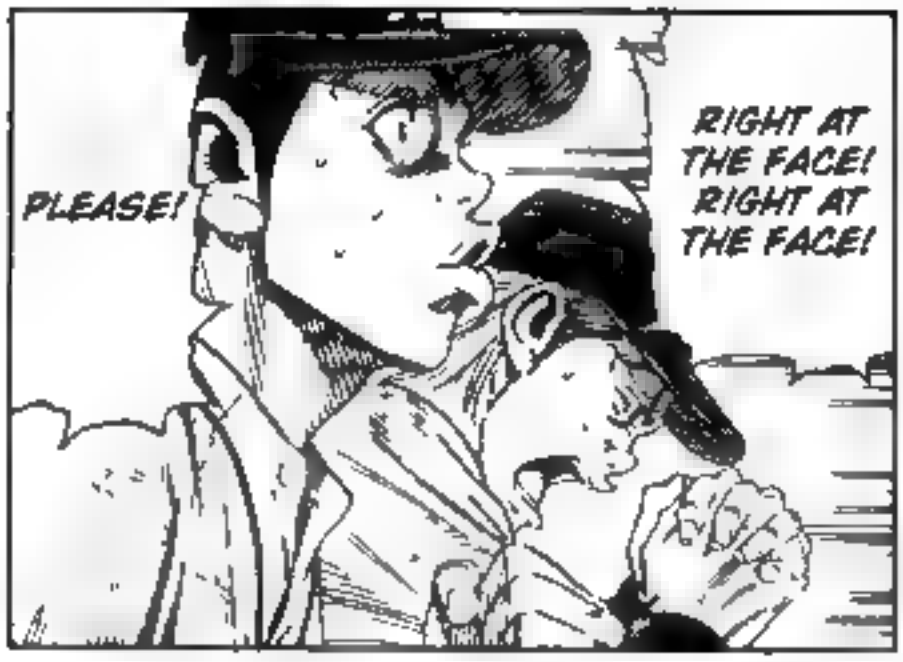
HEH HEH. .

THIS MIGHT BE THE MOMENT WHERE HE FINALLY..

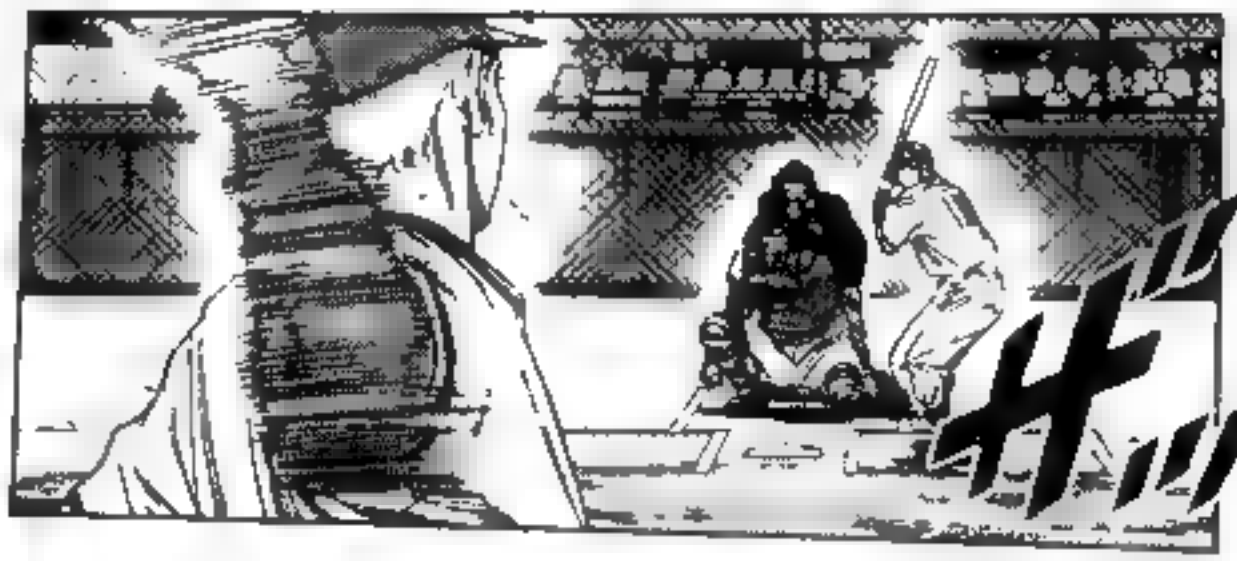
E-ENATSU'S GETTING TIRED. . HIS CONTROL'S WEARING OFF. .

OH, RIGHT! IN THE FACE!

REMEMBER HOW HE HIT THE BALL WHEN IT WAS NEAR HIS FACE?!


PLEASE!
RIGHT AT THE FACE! RIGHT AT THE FACE!

PLEASE!

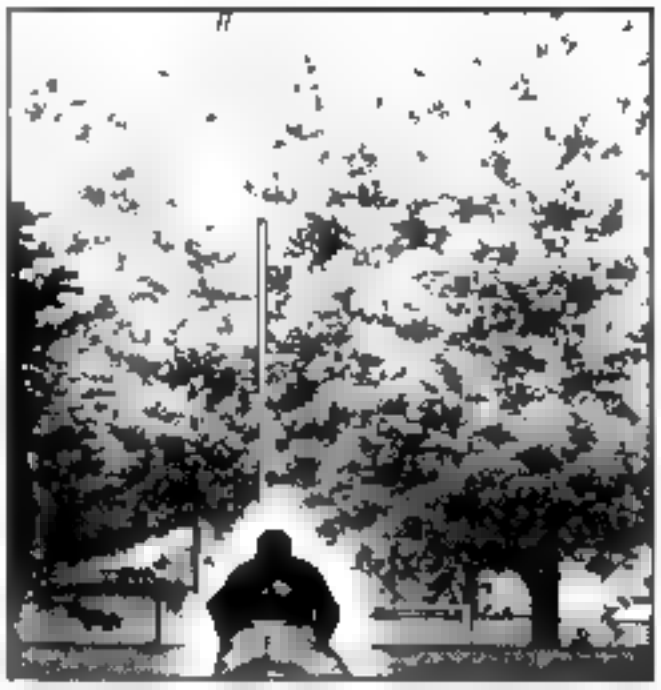


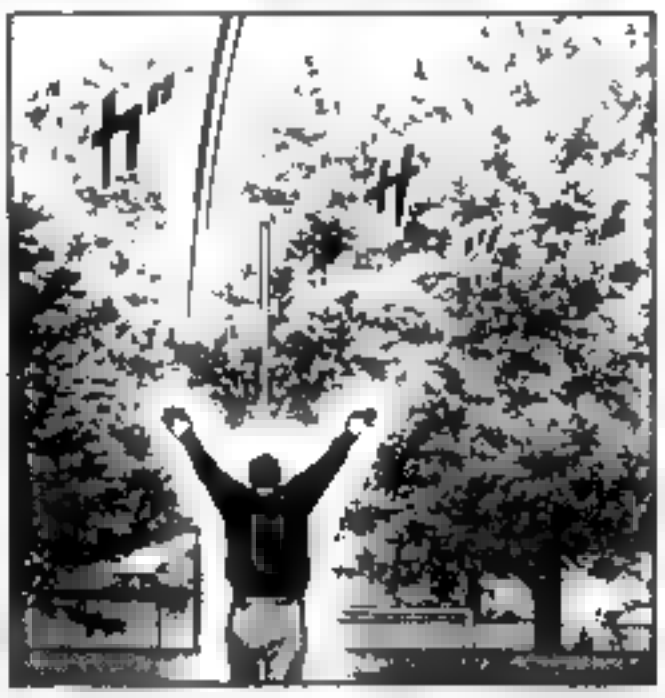
OH MY GOD, THERE IT IS!

RAA-
AAAH!

IT'S A FOUL BALL!

AWWW, IT HOOKED FOUL!





GRAND... SLAM...

IT'D BE A COME-FROM-BEHIND...

AAAH, IF ONLY IT HAD GONE OUT...

NO-OO!

IF ONLY... IT HAD GONE FAIR..

HE CAN DO THIS! THERE'S STILL HOPE!

DID YOU SEE THAT?!

JUST STRAI-GHTEN IT OUT A BIT!

NICE ONE, HIRA-TSUKA! NOW DO IT AGAIN!

!

SENSEI. .

DON'T WORRY, IT'S OKAY!

SHIT .. ENATSU'S NOT GONNA THROW ANOTHER ONE OF THOSE. .

..NO...

DON'T GIVE UP UNTIL THE VERY END.

THAT'S RIGHT... IF WE GIVE UP, WE'VE LOST... TRUST IN HIM.

ONE MORE ...

ONE MORE ...

NRAAAAH!

NO! IT'S LOW! DON'T SWING!

GOD-DAMNIT!

GRAAAAH!

BELIEVE IN HIM!

THIS CAN'T BE HAPPEN-ING!

DON'T SWING AT THAT!

I GOT IT.

AAAAH! POP-UP!

!

IT'S OKAY!

NO, IT'S OKAY!

IT'S OVER

HEH

HEH HEH...

WE'RE OKAY!

AAAH. HE DROPPED IT!

HE DROPPED THE BALL!!

.....!

!!

WHOAAAA!

FOUL BALL!

IS EVEN GOD ON MY SIDE...?!

W-WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING?! JESUS, COME ON!

.....

C-CAN THIS BE...?

STUPID! FUCK-ING! HOLE!

.....!

.....

YES! YES!

M-MY GOOD-NESS .!

FUCK THIS.

THIS IS RIDICU-LOUS.

SHUT UP!

SHATSUI CHILL OUT AND THROW IT DOWN THE MIDDLE!

HEH HEH

.....

.....

PTH

GOD WANTS ME TO WIN...

GOD IS WITH ME...

HIT IT, HIRA-TSUKA-KUN!!

NO, IT'S OKAY!

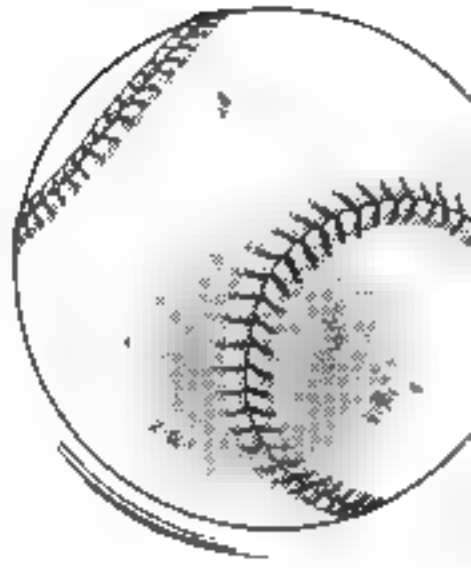
AAAH, I CAN'T WATCH! HE'S GONNA THROW IT RIGHT DOWN THE MIDDLE!

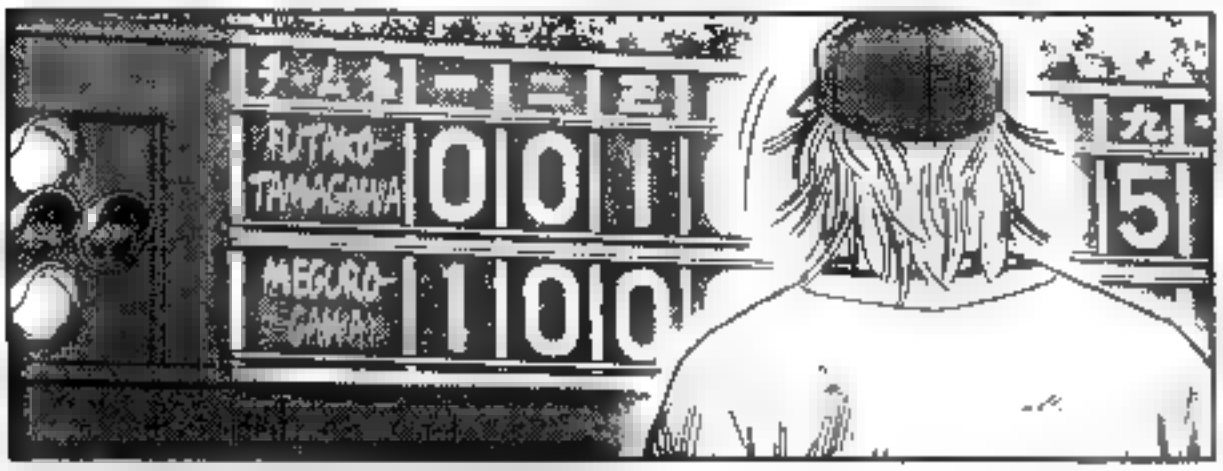
I HEAR THE VOICE OF GOD !!

NAAAAAH!

JUST LAY DOWN A HIT!

IN THE HOLE BETWEEN FIRST AND SECOND, HIRA-TSUKA!





Vol.125 Filthy Bastards

A COME
FROM BEHIND
WHAT THE
I'M GONE

.....
BASES LOADED...

GRAND SLAAAA-AAAM!!

WHA..

WH..

Y...

YESS-
SSS!!
YESSS-
SSS!!

YEYYYYY
!!!!

OH LAWDY, DID YOU SEE! THAT! SHIT!

DID YOU SEE THAT?

THAT'S HOW HIRATSUKA HITS, BITCHES!

IN YOUR FACE, MEGURO-GAWA!

2

YEAA-AAA-AH!!

GYAHA HAHA! OUTTA MY WAY, PEOPLE!

10

YEAAAH! HIRATSU-KAAA!

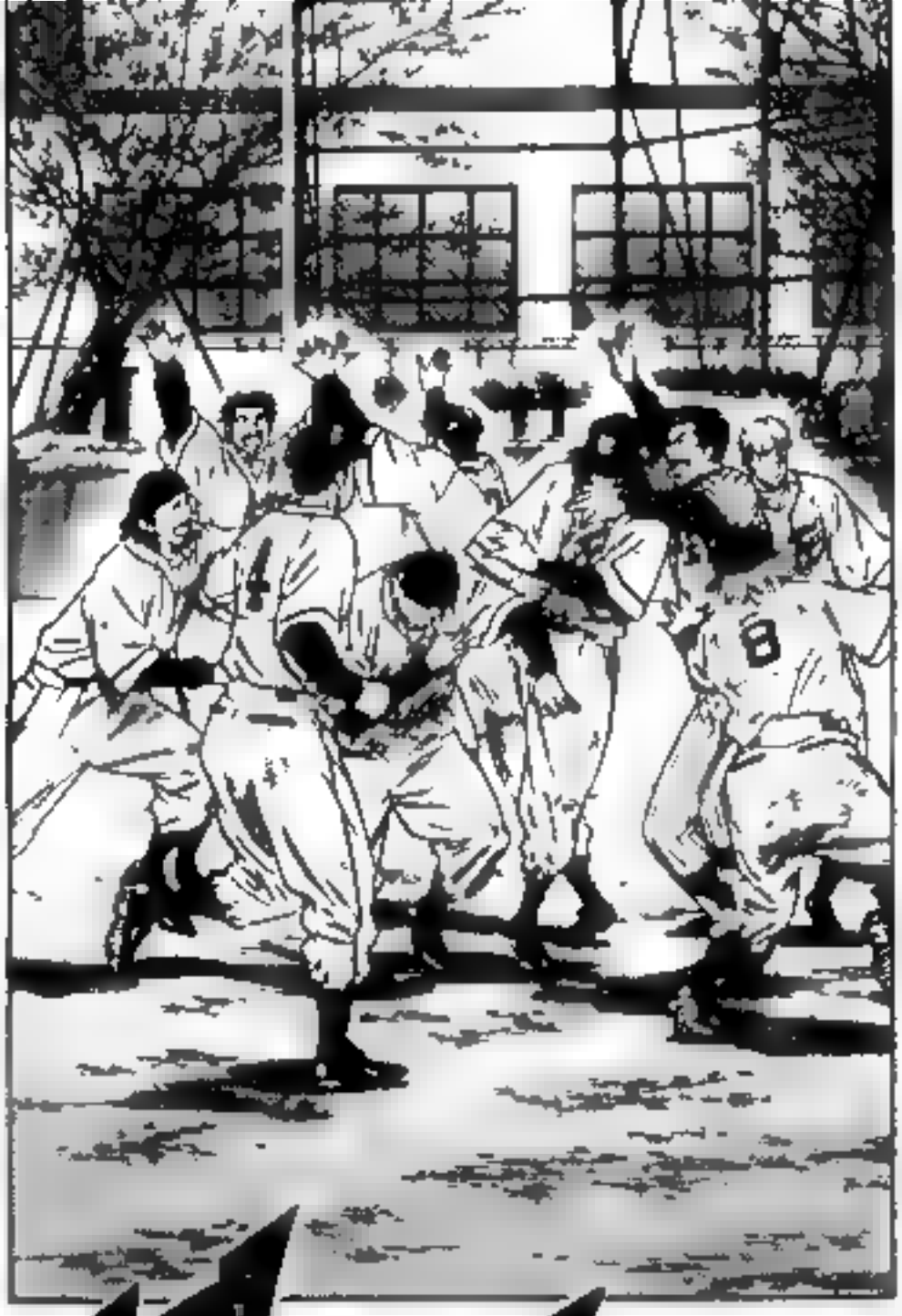
YEAA-AAA-AH!!

2

1

WHOA-AAA!

THE PINCH-HIT WAS A SUCCESS!



SENSEI...

第9

I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS.

WHO ARE THESE GUYS..?

I THOUGHT THEY WERE JUST SOME NOBODY TEAM..

THEY ACTUALLY CLAWED BACK..

AND JUST WHEN I THOUGHT OUR GUYS WERE PULLING IT TOGETHER..

EVEN AFTER THAT, THEY WERE STILL BLAMING EACH OTHER FOR ENEMY RUNS AND GIVING UP EARLY...

I GUESS THEY REALLY *WEREN'T* ANYTHING BUT SELFISH, FILTHY BASTARDS AFTER ALL.

HEH! ENATSU DOESN'T EVEN *LIKE* BASEBALL TO BEGIN WITH. I BET HE DOESN'T *CARE* WHAT HAPPENS IN THIS GAME.

AND LOOK AT HIM NOW

BESIDES, TO HIM THIS WAS SUPPOSED TO BE A GAME WHERE HE SHOWED OFF WHAT TALENT CAN DO, TO A BUNCH OF BEGINNINERS

SHIT

HUFF
HUFF.

STRIKE THREE!
BATTER OUT!

THE GUY'S GONNA SNAP AT ANY MOMENT.

JUST WATCHIN'.

W-WHAT DO YOU WANT?

W-WHAT, FOR REAL?

DID YOU KNOW THAT HE HIT THE OTHER PITCHER IN A GAME WITH THE BAT, ONCE?

!

GYAHAHA! THAT SOUNDS LIKE ENATSU.

WHAT THE HELL? WE'RE LOSING.

WHAT, GAME'S ALMOST OVER ALREADY?

WE HEARD SOME DIPSHITS FROM NIKOGAKU ARE HERE

.....

ENATSU TOLD US TO COME AND SEE.

NAH, MAN. JUST WATCHIN'

YOU GUYS BETTER NOT SCREW UP THE GAME.

HEH HEH HEH!

YOU OKAY, IMAOKA?

I THINK...

OKAY! LEAVE THE SHORT-STOPPIN' TO ME, BOYS!

JUST DON'T MAKE AN ERROR, DAMMIT! YOU HEAR ME?!

ALL RIGHT, GUYS! LET'S FINISH 'EM OFF!

DON'T EVEN WORRY ABOUT TIPPING YOUR PITCHES.

WHAT ?

OH YEAH, SPEAKING OF WHICH.

SHUT UP! NO THEY DON'T.

REMEMBER, THEY KNOW WHEN YOU'RE GONNA THROW THE CURVEBALL.

!

FIRST, YOU NEED TO STOP CHECKING YOUR GRIP ON THE CURVE THAT'S BUSH LEAGUE, MAN.

WHY DIDN'T YOU MENTION THAT EARLIER?!

HOW COULD I?! YOU GUYS WERE ALL OBSESSED WITH FINDING THE GIVEAWAY! I COULDN'T GET A WORD IN!

THAT WAS THE GIVEAWAY, YOU TOOL!

HUH? WHAT? ANYONE WOULD NOTICE THAT IN LIKE TWO SECONDS!

I MEAN, THAT'S MORE IMPORTANT THAN FIXING ANY "TIPS" OR WHATEVER...

Y-YOU NOTICED THAT?!

WHAA-AAT?!

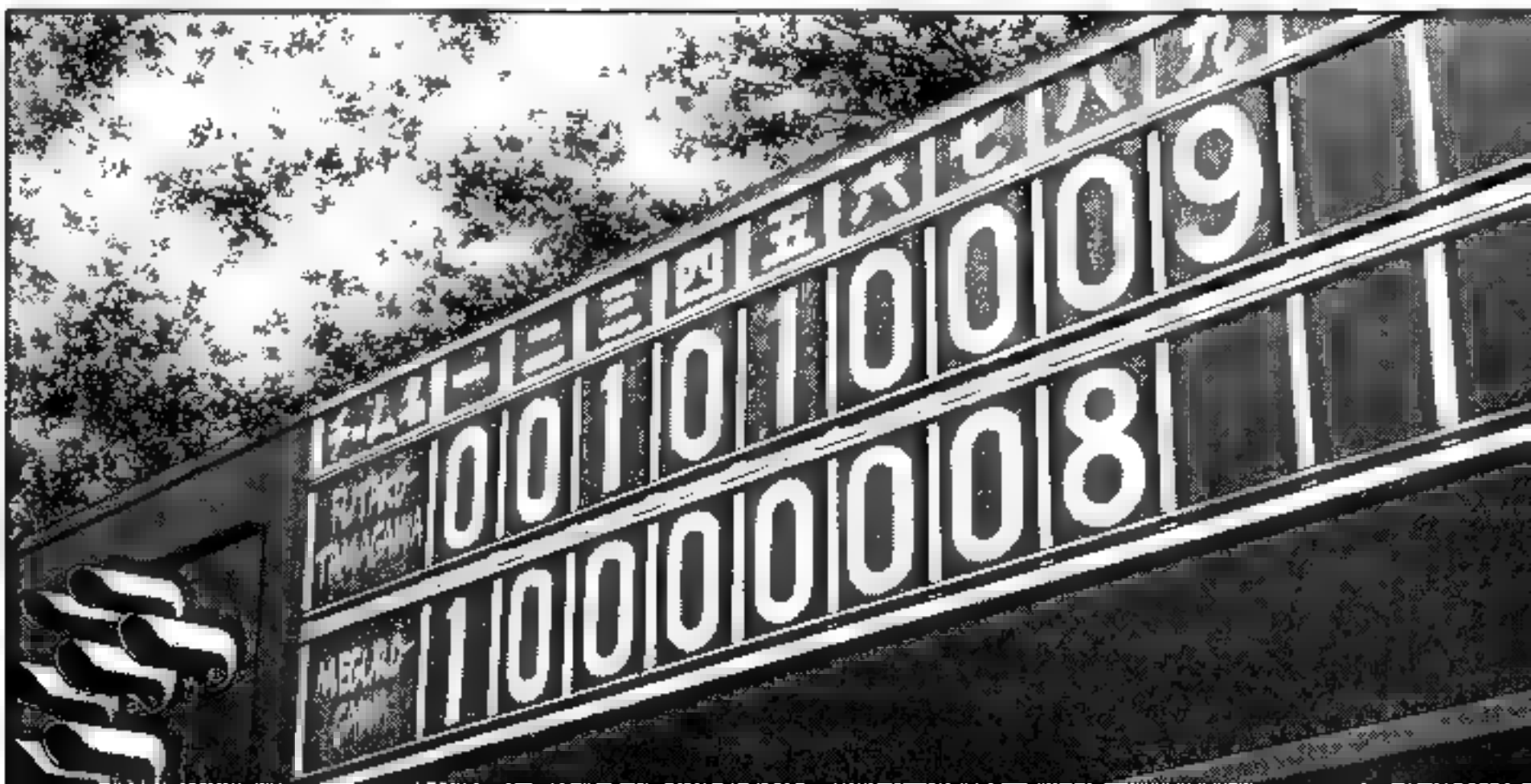
THAT IS THE TIP, DAMMIT!

SHIT... OH MY GOD, THAT'S EMBARRASSING...

HOW DARE YOU INSULT THE GRAND SLAMMA-JAMMA!

DIE!

GOD, YOU IDIOT!



BUT THERE'S MUCH MORE TO IT THAN THAT THERE WAS CONCENTRATION, FIREPOWER, TIMELINESS. .

WE'VE HAD EXCELLENT LUCK. .

YES.

I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE IT ..

WE'VE REALLY TAKEN BACK THE LEAD. .

O-OLD MAN?

OLD MAN.

TEAMWORK.

THERE'S JUST ONE WORD FOR ALL THAT

CLOSE IT OUT! SEAL THE DEAL!

DON'T LET YOUR GUARD DOWN IN THIS INNING!

ALL RIGHT, BOYS! HOLD THEM DOWN!

HE MIGHT BE THE ONLY ONE AMONG US WHO NEVER GAVE UP UNTIL THE END.

LET'S DO IT! THREE OUTS!

I FEEL ASHAMED THAT I HAD LOST HOPE SEVERAL TIMES ALREADY.

SENSEI...

FUCKIN' SHIT!

WE'RE GETTIN' SCHOOLED BY THESE RETARDS...

WHY, GOD-DAMNIT? WHY...

THIS GAME IS BULLSHIT!

.....

.....

RRRR-AAGH!

YOU'RE UP FIRST

HUFF.

HUFF

YOU DID WELL TO PITCH ALL NINE INNINGS.

I DON'T MIND SUBBING YOU OUT.

.....

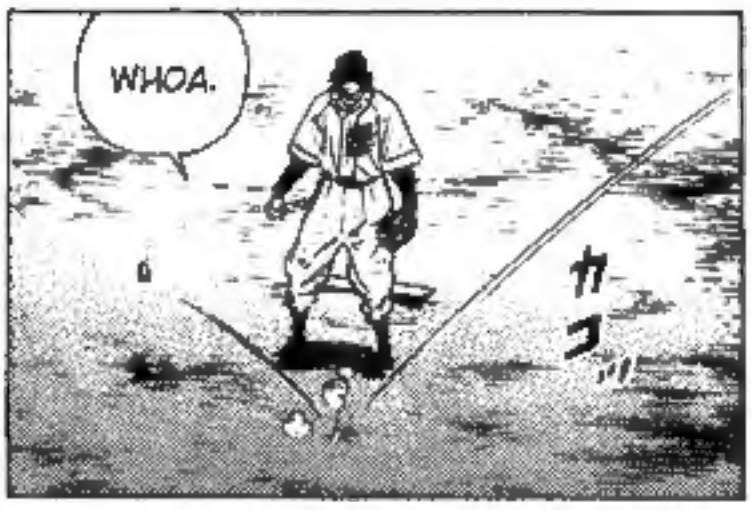
WOULD YOU LIKE TO SIT?

OH!

ptu

HO HO.

I'M SURPRISED THE DUPE CAN STILL STAND UP.
IF IT AIN'T KING ASSHOLE, HIMSELF.


WHOA.
カコ!!

PLAY BALL!

!
!

!?
WHA...

HEY.
MM?

WHOA.
WHAT'S GOING ON?!
W-WHO ARE THESE GUYS...?

ENATSU! WE'RE HERE TO SEE YA, MAN!

1

13 人事を尽くして 天命を待つ(完)

■ジャンプ・コミックス

ROOKIES

13人事を尽くして 天命を待つ

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